

# THE COWL



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NOVEMBER 20, 2008

## TWO ARRESTED FOR STABBING

BY DEVIN MURPHY '10  
NEWS EDITOR

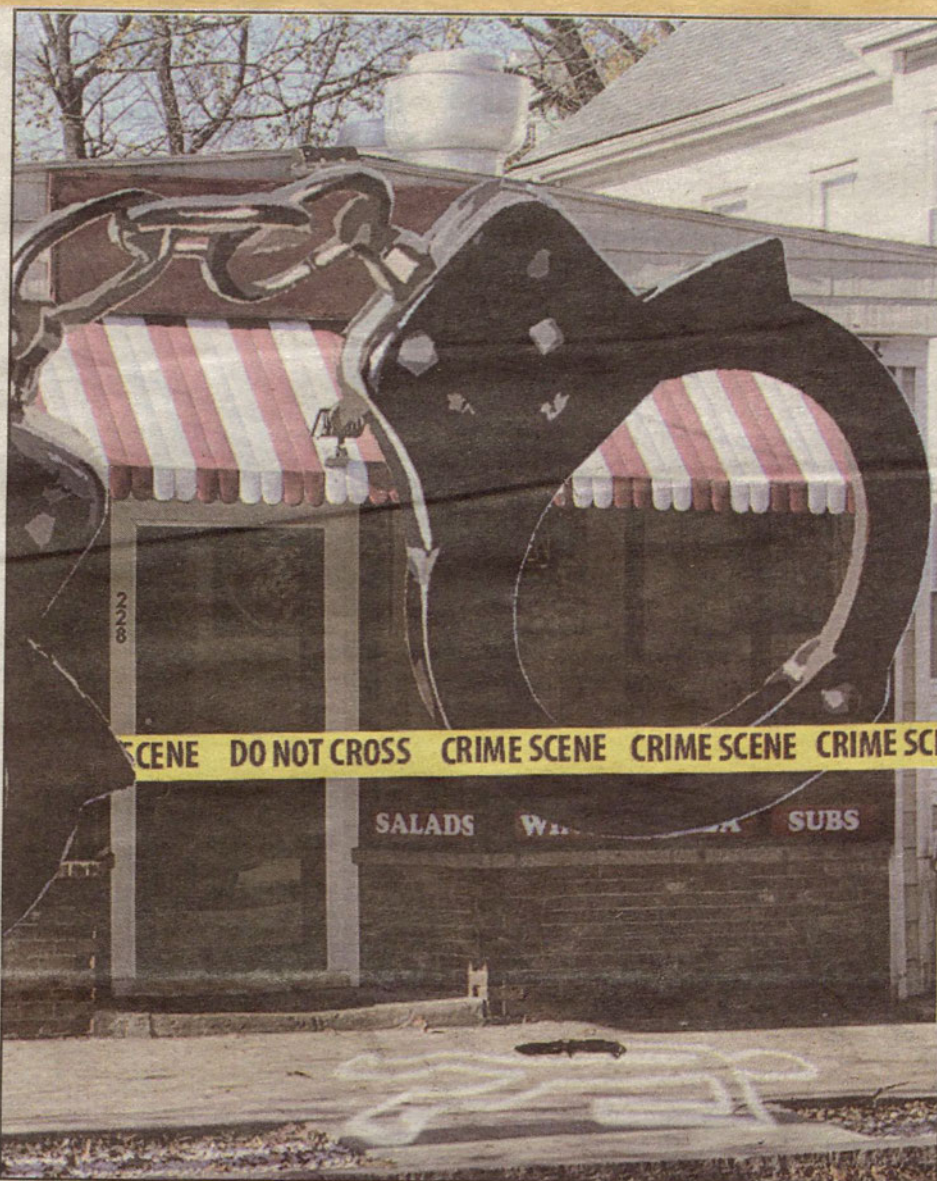
Two suspects involved in the stabbing outside Golden Crust Pizza on Sept. 28, 2008, have been arrested. John Walsh, 19, and a juvenile, both of Cranston, R.I., were arrested on Friday, Nov. 14, under charges of assault with a deadly weapon, which is punishable as a felony. The Providence College community was made aware of the arrests by Major John Leyden, director of the Office of Safety and Security.

"Unfortunately, lately, when students get an e-mail from me it's usually about a crime that's occurred, so I was happy to send out an e-mail [about] an arrest," said Leyden.

The arrests were made as a result of the investigation of Detective Robert Miele of the Providence Police Department. Miele worked with both the Office of Safety and Security at the College and the Rhode Island State Police.

"He's [Miele] a tenacious investigator, who left no stone unturned," said Leyden.

On the night of the stabbing, a PC student and two friends drove to Golden Crust Pizza, located on Oakland Avenue. The suspects had been visiting friends who live on Pembroke Avenue. The victims had parked the vehicle they were driving across the street from the establishment and exited the vehicle. They then got into an argument with some people standing outside of Golden Crust Pizza which resulted in a physical



GRAPHIC BY MATT LONGOBARDI '10/The Cowl

On Friday, Nov. 14, the Providence Police arrested two suspects responsible for the stabbing of a PC student and his two friends outside of Golden Crust Pizza.

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## LANGUAGE CHAIR FIGHTS BACK

BY RICK KURKER '09  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

In light of the retirement of Laurent Gousie, Ph.D., professor of German in the Department of Modern Languages, at the end of this school year, Providence

CAMPUS  
NEWS

College has not opted to hire a new professor of German. According to Nuria Alonso Garcia, associate professor and chair of the department, this move is a big mistake for a college that intends to create responsible leaders in the 21st century.

"German language courses have long been among the offerings of the Department of Modern Languages, and the College has no immediate plans to eliminate those courses," Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., president of the College, said last week.

"The VPAA [Vice President of Academic Affairs] has indicated to me that the College is not contemplating the elimination of German at this time, but the administration has decided not to replace the retiring professor, Gousie, with a tenure-track assistant professor," said Alonso Garcia. "Of course, we played no role in this decision."

Alonso Garcia said that the department asked for a "tenure-track replacement for Gousie" so that the German program could be built up for the benefit of the students, but she said this request was denied. "I believe that in a century where the

GERMAN/Page 4

## Banquet Addresses Issues of Poverty and Hunger

BY ALLISON O'CONNOR '10  
NEWS STAFF

On Sunday, Nov. 16, an Oxfam Hunger Banquet was held at 6:00 p.m. in '64 Hall. The event, sponsored by Campus Ministry's Hunger Awareness Outreach and Social Justice Advocacy along with Amnesty International, was the first of a week-long series of programs that are part of Hunger Awareness Week, Nov. 16-22, at Providence College. Approximately 70 students attended the banquet to kick off Hunger Week, sponsored by Campus Ministry, which is a campaign of awareness to call attention to the Global Food Crisis.

Its purpose is to educate students at the College about the issues and to promote ideas for how they can personally take action. The interactive Oxfam Hunger Banquet is a presentation and simulation that is held annually at the College.



SARA SPIRITO '11/The Cowl

Students gathered in '64 Hall for the Oxfam Hunger Banquet for the Oxfam Hunger Banquet which marked the beginning of Hunger Awareness Week.

"With this event, we hope to create concerned students and citizens, and we hope to make those who attend think deeply about what poverty, inequality, and injustice mean in our world and how we can respond,"

said Cara Bragg '09, treasurer of Amnesty International. "Even if a couple of people feel changed because of the event, it is a success."

The Oxfam Hunger Banquet provided students with an educational

and interactive experience in promoting hunger awareness.

"It is one tool that is used to inform people about some of the inequalities that exist depending merely on where people are born," said Bragg.

Bragg coordinated much of the Hunger Banquet.

"Whether you are born in a first- or third-world country can have an enormous impact on your access to basic necessities like food and water, primary education, or viable career opportunities," said Bragg.

Tickets for the event were \$3, and all proceeds went to Oxfam America, a non-governmental international relief organization that actively works in more than 120 countries to create solutions to poverty, hunger, and injustice. The group is working to provide food for the 2.5 billion people currently surviving on less than \$2 a day. Over 854 million people go to sleep hungry each night, despite the fact that enough food is produced globally to feed each person on earth.

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Intramural  
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Cadets From PC and Area Colleges  
and Universities Swear Oath in  
Contracting Ceremony

There are more than 25,000 cadets enrolled in the 272 ROTC programs at United States universities, and each cadet is required to pledge an oath of loyalty and service to the United States in a contracting ceremony. On Wednesday, Nov. 12, Providence College hosted the contracting ceremony for five area schools at the Grotto located in front of St. Dominic Chapel. Besides those at the College, students from Bryant University, University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, Ferris University, and Johnson and Wales University were contracted.

Among those contracted from PC were freshmen William Buckley, Christopher Cauda, Amberly Glitz, Andrew Lucid, and Sean McGovern, and sophomores Lauren Magrane and Patrick O'Donnell.

“

Right now we stand in a time of war. Your duty is to support and defend our Constitution and our way of life.

Maj. Matthew R. McKinley

”

Patriot Battalion Executive Officer Maj. Neal H. Gouck welcomed the audience to the ceremony. He gave a history of the military's place at PC.



GRAPHIC BY MATT LONGOBARDI '10

“In July of 1943, 563 trainees arrived at Providence College,” said Gouck. “In January of 1944, these men, who were trained in engineering, left to go to war.”

Those trainees he referred to were the first cadets contracted at PC.

After Gouck's introduction, Rev. Kenneth Sicard, O.P., vice president of Providence College, led everyone in prayer.

Maj. Matthew R. McKinley, professor of military science, spoke about

the group of ROTC cadets after Sicard's prayer.

“A fine group of leaders stands before you,” he said. “Many of them have already sworn enlistment, an oath not to be taken lightly.”

According to McKinley, this oath is of particular importance at this point in history.

“Right now we stand in a time of war,” he said. “Your duty is to support and defend our Constitution and our way of life.”

The 17 contractees then swore their oath of enlistment, promising to uphold the United States Constitution against all enemies, to have true faith and allegiance to their country, and to obey the orders of the president and of officers of superior rank. Each was presented with a Patriot Battalion coin.

After being contracted, ROTC cadets are expected to serve in the active

“

It's crazy that these students are basically agreeing to fight in war and can do it with such ease. I can't imagine the courage and drive it takes to be so calm.

Giselle Youssef '11

”

Army, the Army National Guard, and the U.S. Army Reserve. Over 60 percent of second lieutenants who join the Army are ROTC graduates.

According to an observer, Giselle Youssef '11, the calmness with which the cadets repeated their oath was admirable.

“It's crazy that these students are basically agreeing to fight in war and can do it with such ease,” said Youssef. “I can't imagine the courage and drive it takes to be so calm.”

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, Frank J. Williams, a Vietnam War veteran, gave the guest speech. Rev. Iriarte Andujar, O.P., then led Benediction.

—Kylie Lacey '11

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 21-27

21 Fri	22 Sat	23 Sun	24 Mon	25 Tues	26 Wed	27 Thurs
12:00 p.m. Hunger Awareness Week: 30-Hour Fast, Chapel Basement	2:00 p.m. Blackfriars Dance Concert, Angell Blackfriars Theatre, Smith Center for the Arts	8:30 a.m. Friars Club Thanksgiving Dinner, Feinstein Academic Center, Room 400	9:00 a.m. Penitence: Photoconstruction, Hunt-Cavanagh Hall, Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery	5:00 p.m. Student Congress Meeting, Slavin Center, Room 112	5:30 p.m. Economics Club Meeting, Slavin Center, G29	8:00 a.m. Exhibit: Documenting the Restoration of the Sistine Chapel, Phillips Memorial Library, Main Floor Display Case
8:00 p.m. Blackfriars Dance Concert, Angell Blackfriars Theatre, Smith Center for the Arts	6:00 p.m. Pep Band Concert, Slavin Center, '64 Hall	8:00 p.m. Great American Bake Sale, Chapel Basement	5:00 p.m. Alternative Spring Break Tote Bag Sale, Slavin Center, Ground Level	6:30 p.m. African-American Club Meeting, Slavin Center, G01	7:00 p.m. Organization of Latin American Students, Slavin Center, G01	11:30 a.m. Things for Thursday, Slavin Center, Ground Level
9:00 p.m. Comedian BJ Novak, Slavin Center, McPhail's	7:00 p.m. Women's Ice Hockey vs. Niagara, Schneider Arena, Providence, R.I.				7:00 p.m. Student Congress Executive Board Meeting, Slavin Center, Room 117	

SECURITY TIPS

TO BE SAFE ON OR OFF CAMPUS, TRUST YOUR SENSES!

A: SIGHT

- If something LOOKS like a problem starting, it usually is a problem starting.
- As a result, go away from the problem area and report the possible problem to security or police.
- An example would be SUSPICIOUS persons or activity.

B: HEARING

- If someone or something tells you that you are in an unsecured area or unsafe area, trust what you are HEARING is true and AVOID this area. Don't become a victim!

TAKE AWAY THE OPPORTUNITY,  
TRUST THOSE SENSES!!!!!!

Accuracy Watch

The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please e-mail the editor at thecowl@providence.edu. Corrections will be printed as necessary on page 2.



# Basketball Tourney Benefits Tomorrow Fund

BY TED DeNICOLA '11  
NEWS STAFF

The Office Depot Charity Basketball Classic was held on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2008, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Peterson Recreation Center. Six mar-

keting majors were required to plan a charity event for credit in their sports marketing class. Seniors Jon Zafonte, Greg Coonley, Kayleigh Walsh, Vanessa Ricciardelli, Mike Ajello, and Tyler Fallon decided on a basketball tournament to benefit the Tomorrow Fund.

"We were required to plan every aspect of an event for charity," said Zafonte. "This included finance, event planning, advertising, and finding sponsors."

"It really meant a lot to us that the student body came out to not only support us as a class but to also support the Tomorrow Fund and their efforts to help children with cancer," said Walsh.

The title sponsor for the event was Office Depot. Other sponsors included Giflex Prepay, Target, the 02908 Club, and Testa. All proceeds went to the Tomorrow Fund, which is sponsored by Hasbro Children's Hospital.

"The Tomorrow Fund provides financial and emotional support for kids with cancer and their families," said Zafonte.

All of the marketing majors wore t-shirts with the Tomorrow Fund logo on them.

"Anytime you can do something like this for charity is great," said Zafonte. "The event had a great turnout and went smoothly. That's all we could have asked for."

The event featured Providence College basketball coach Keno Davis.

"Coach Keno Davis shook hands and personally greeted the teams," said Zafonte.

Davis was a main draw for the event,



KATIE HOGAN '09/The Cowl

Students gathered in Peterson Recreation Center for a charity basketball tournament on Nov. 16. All proceeds went to the Tomorrow Fund.

helping the students exceed their donation goal for the Tomorrow Fund.

"I think it was great that Keno and the players came to support the cause," said Walsh. "Keno said he was happy to support the cause and to be involved with students."

Accompanying Davis were members of the PC Friars basketball team Randall Hanke '09 and Bilal Dixon '12. Cary Collins, coordinator of Basketball Operations, also made an appearance. According to Zafonte, Davis and the members of the team stayed at the event until 2:00 p.m.

"Hanke and Dixon shot around with the participants while they warmed up," said Zafonte.

In total there were four women's teams and 15 men's teams signed up to play basketball for charity.

According to Zafonte, the winning

female team was the Silver Bullets.

The Filthy Animals defeated Team Lightning in the men's championship game. Members of the Filthy Animals were sophomore Dan Hicks and seniors Ryan Ricci, Duke Travers, and Andrew Alessandrini.

Hicks said that he was happy to support the charity but was also excited that his team won. Hicks said the Filthy Animals followed their motto, "They swagger aren't fly like mine."

Team Lightning included freshmen Matt Wilson, Steve Higgins, Mark Hakim, and Taylor O'Brien.

"Combining sports and charity is a good way to bring kids together," said O'Brien. "Even if you lose, by the end of the day you have still raised money. This was a great way to get everyone together."

In order to participate, students had to have a team of three to five people on the registration form. The cost was \$30 per team. The fee included food and beverages, three games per team, and a complimentary Office Depot t-shirt.

"Each team was guaranteed three games," said Zafonte. "Based on their performance they could advance to the elimination rounds."

"I was pleased with the turnout and success of the tournament, and look forward to presenting the Tomorrow Fund with the proceeds of what was an educational and challenging experience," said Coonley.

The Tomorrow Fund donated colorful pennants, green wrist bracelets, informational pamphlets, and a donation form.

Zafonte made specific reference to the cover of the pamphlet, which said, "We can't say how kids with cancer will grow up. . . We just want to make sure they do!"

According to Zafonte, the project was assigned at the beginning of the semester by sports marketing professor Daniel Horne, Ph.D, Department of Marketing. Other than a few small checkpoints from their professor, the charity was under complete control of the students.

"Sports Marketing is definitely the most rewarding class I have taken at PC because I was able to put everything I learned to the test," said Zafonte. "My group took an event at its infant stage and exceeded our goal. This has become a real personal achievement."

Zafonte said that the support of the PC community and the business community helped to make the event a success.

"We are grateful to Coach Keno Davis and his players for coming to support us," said Zafonte. "We are grateful for the support of the Providence College community as a whole for making this event possible."

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# Congress Passes New Club Legislation

BY MARY PELLETIER '09  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the end of the semester drawing near, Student Congress spent their second-to-last meeting of 2008 passing one initiative and debating three others that will be up for vote on Dec. 2.

**STUDENT CONGRESS** The first and only legislation passed at the meeting addressed the support of the Providence College Sweat-Free PC campaign. After last week's discussion, Congress voted unanimously to back Sweat-Free PC's efforts, which put pressure on the College to purchase goods from companies that guarantee fair working conditions in their factories.

While the Sweat-Free PC legislation passed quickly, Congress was then faced with questions regarding approval of next year's academic calendar, the implementation of proposed club structure, and an amendment to the Congress Constitution put forth by the Class of 2009.

Megan Bennett '10, chair of the Academics Committee, first explained the options of endorsing or opposing the proposed calendar, and then moved on to an explanation of her committee's decision. She also noted the recent change in

Freshman Orientation dates and that the Faculty Senate has voted down the proposed calendar.

"As Academics Committee, we believe that we should not endorse this calendar proposal and that we should make a statement," said Bennett.

The main point of the discussion revolved around the process by which the dates for orientation were changed, and the fact that the official message to the student body was not sent until this week.

Tim O'Mara '11 felt that the legislation being developed by the Class of 2010 regarding the process would be a more effective than voting down the calendar.

"I feel like it would be a more direct route of saying we don't enjoy the process," said O'Mara.

"We heard about orientation at least a week into school, so that's a good three months where nothing happened to tell the student body that orientation changed and what it was going to be like," said Sean Jones '10. "I feel that even though they did send the e-mail, it came a little too late—a lot too late, actual-

ly—so I would ask Congress to not support this."

"If we are going to say that we don't agree with [the] process, we have to vote for this legislation [to not endorse the calendar]," said Molly Kerwin '09.

The Clubs and Organizations Committee next brought forth their resolution for the newly proposed club structure. Jones addressed the changes to the standing legislation.

"This is an entirely new section in the standing legislation," he said.

Under the changes, proposed clubs will be allowed to utilize the SAIL Office's advertising resources and use the College name. They will also be required to hold two meetings a

month, submit minutes to the committee, hold one event open to all students, and have a moderator, but will not receive funding from the Student Activities fee or reserve space on campus through R-25, the College's online reservation system. Other established clubs as well as Congress can reserve space for these proposed clubs, however.

"We heard about orientation at least a week into school, so that's a good three months where nothing happened to tell the student body that orientation had changed and what it was going to be like."

Sean Jones '10

## BANQUET: Simulation Represents World Hunger

continued from front page

Upon entering '64 Hall students were randomly and arbitrarily given a small piece of paper which assigned them to a specific economic class: high, middle, or low income.

"It is an interactive simulation...but we try to keep it a secret so that people are thrown into the situation," said Bragg.

The people receiving high-income cards were seated at tables complete with tablecloths and full place settings. These students were served a full-course meal that included salad, pasta with sauce, breadsticks, and even chocolate cake. A waitress provided full service, as if they were actually seated in a high-class restaurant.

The designated middle-income students sat only in chairs on the opposite end of the room. They were allowed to help themselves to a simple meal of rice

and beans, to which women could only help themselves after the men had taken their desired helpings.

The remaining students formed the low-income group, and they were forced to sit compactly together on the floor

within the confines of a rectangular area of masking tape. Their meal consisted merely of a bowl of rice placed on the floor, along with a bowl of water that they had to share amongst themselves. Stomachs rumbled with disappointment as their peers' stomachs enjoyed a savory meal only a few feet away.

In addition, each guest took on an assumed identity as a particular member of his or her designated economic class. Students were handed a paper containing a description of a person and the scenario he or she was facing due to his or her current income level.

When the simulation was complete, guests were asked to share their thoughts.

"We were sitting right next to [the low income group] but didn't think to offer them anything," said Lisa

Hofer '09, a member of the high-income group.

Many students found it surprising that in spite of the proximity to the low-income situation right before their eyes, students didn't do more to help ease the hunger of the less fortunate group.

"I was really surprised when someone commented on all the extra beans we had but no one thought to offer any to the lower class," said Annie Provo '10, a member of the middle-income group. "It was as if we didn't have a lot for ourselves so we thought we didn't have to give the little that we had away."

Following the simulation, Gabriel Barreras, a lead student organizer from Boston for Oxfam America, gave a presentation on hunger.

"It's great for me to reach out to colleges," said Barreras. "It's not normally as great of a response as we have here tonight."

Barreras's presentation included an introduction about Oxfam America and the work that it performs. He informed students about the current situation and close reality of the Global Food Crisis, which is also referred to as the "Silent Tsunami." He told them that not only is hunger an issue abroad, but it also impacts millions of Americans.

A clip was shown from a video entitled *Sisters on the Planet*. It documented the real situation of a woman named Martina, living in Uganda, who struggles daily to make ends meet for herself and her children amidst situations of poverty and starvation that plague her country.

As students left, they were provided with the opportunity to sign a petition to be sent to President-elect Barack Obama and his future staff in an effort to encourage enhanced promotion of the Global Food Crisis awareness and initiatives. Students could also sign up to become part of Oxfam America's online community in order to be more informed about current issues of hunger and how they could help.

"I was really surprised when someone commented on all the extra beans we had but no one thought to offer any to the lower class."

Annie Provo '10

## GERMAN: College Not Hiring Tenured Professor

continued from front page

study of languages and appreciation of cultures is so highly valued and well-regarded, Providence College is depriving students of the opportunity to develop an understanding of foreign languages and cultures, and by so doing, to become responsible citizens of the world," said Alonso Garcia. "This is inconsistent with the college's mission and publicly stated commitment to internationalizing our curriculum."

To clarify a statement made by Shanley last week, Alonso Garcia said that Gousie is the only professor of German at the College, and that Rev. Leonard Hindsley, O.P., is a fulltime professor of Humanities, not German, as Hindsley teaches courses in the Development of Western Civilization, German, global studies and theology.

Alonso Garcia said that other colleges and universities in the United States are working to expand their language offerings. However, she stated that the College is not committed to providing students with enough support to pursue the study of foreign languages.

"The replacement of the College's only professor of German with a tenure-track assistant professor is an opportunity for the college to demonstrate its commitment to its new vision for a 21st-century curriculum," said Alonso Garcia. "The failure to take advantage of this opportunity further diminishes the already limited language offerings available at the College and sends a clear message to future applicants about the prevailing culture on campus marked by homogeneity, and the disinterest of the College in promoting an appreciation of other cultures within the curriculum."

Alonso Garcia also emphasized the extreme importance of offering a wide array of different foreign languages in order to fulfill the president's mandate to internationalize the curriculum. According to Alonso Garcia, students would only be able to choose among Romance languages if German were completely eliminated from the modern languages program.

Alonso Garcia also said that there are many majors at the College that recommend the study of German, as well as other foreign languages if the students plan to go on to graduate

The final order of business was put forth by the Class of 2009, which is proposing an amendment to Congress' constitution that will allow committee chairs to vote. Currently, committee chairs are appointed by the Executive Board, and as appointees, do not have the voting ability that elected members have. Many concerns were raised regarding the reasons that appointed members have not had a vote in the past, the chairs' knowledge of their lack of vote while interviewing for the position, and the questions surrounding appointed members (not chairs) who maintain a vote due to extenuating circumstances.

Prior to the debates that garnered many opinions from members, the meeting opened with an introductory, explanatory talk given by Jim Rizzo, Help Desk manager, Information Technology, who was publicizing the new IT Web site [www.pcselfhelp.com](http://www.pcselfhelp.com). The Web site, a wiki is available to all students to look at, as well as edit themselves. As of now, students must register for an account online for the ability to modify or add information on the site, which provides information about the campus and the city that students could find helpful.

schools upon completion of their undergraduate degree.

"It does not seem logical to have so few foreign languages available to students in a liberal arts school," said Alonso Garcia. "Our competitors, for the most part, offer German as well as a number of other languages."

PC students agree with Alonso Garcia that not hiring a full-time tenured German professor is a mistake.

Molly Lynch '09 said that when she did research for Prof. Paolo Cesarini of the Department of Political Science last summer, she realized the importance of knowing a foreign language.

"Doing research, I found I was very limited because I did not speak another language such as Spanish," said Lynch. "I think that, to be an educated individual, fluency in a second language is critical."

Christopher Manoogian '09 said he has been taking Spanish classes at PC since the start of his junior year. He similarly noted the importance of the College offering a variety of modern languages.

"Many people in this world do not speak English," said Manoogian. "It is important to be able to understand these people in their beliefs, ideas, and culture. We will be able to better work together and understand where they come from in order to get things accomplished. It fosters better communication among all peoples of the world."

All in all, Alonso Garcia indicated that the College's downsizing of the German program is irresponsible.

"The College seems to think of languages as expendable or as a luxury that can no longer be afforded," she said. "Given the world situation, it is foolish to think that we are preparing responsible global citizens who know nothing of the languages of the world. Without knowing the language, we cannot really know the people and their culture. Without knowing another language, we cannot reflect in a deeper way on our own language and culture."

"The Department of Modern Languages firmly believes that studying a foreign language is to become a lifelong learner, searching for opportunities to broaden perspectives, grow intellectually, and understand what it means to be a citizen of the world," said Alonso Garcia.



# Bowling for Autism Raises \$2,500

BY SARA BETH LABANARA '11  
NEWS STAFF

A sports marketing class taught by Daniel R. Horne, Ph.D., Department of Marketing, recently created, planned, and executed charitable events in order to raise money for charitable causes. Turning their classroom knowledge to the real world, the class experienced firsthand what it takes to coordinate all aspects of an event. One group organized Bowling for Autism to raise money for the organization Autism Speaks.

"We had to plan everything from scratch and find sponsors in order to raise a certain amount of money for a charity that we chose," said group member Liz Fennel '09, who helped organize the event.

The class was broken up into three groups, consisting roughly of 10 students each. A 5K walk/run was organized, as well as a three-versus-three basketball tournament in addition to the bowling event which Fennel's group organized.

"My group and I chose bowling and we chose autism as our cause; I know a few of us in our group have family members or friends who know people with autism, so that's why we chose that cause," said Fennel.

The group considered other charitable causes but decided that autism was the one that meant the most to the group as a whole. It is an especially important cause for Fennel because of her cousin's struggle with the disorder.

"My cousin has autism," said Fennel. "I get to see him and how he interacts with other people. It's nice to put money towards learning more about autism because it's something that a lot of people don't know a lot about yet."

In addition to considering multiple charitable causes, the group also pondered different types of events. However, they decided that bowling would be a unique way to attract a large crowd.

"My team and I thought that bowling would be something fun that we could get a lot of people to come to," said Fennel.

"Bowling turned out to be a good activity because it is something that everyone can do, and it is different from the usual nighttime activities at PC," said team member Dylan Kidder '09.

The event took place on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., at Cranston Lanes in Cranston, R.I.

"We had a really great turnout; we completely filled the place, we had both sides filled with kids," said Fennel.

"It was great to see all of our friends and classmates come together and attend our event, while supporting a charity in the process," said Kidder.

In order to create the greatest possible turnout and successfully plan the event the group relied on a few forms of publicity.

"We used a Facebook group, we handed out fliers, and wrote on the boards of classrooms," said Fennel. "Also, we went around to dorms the week before asking people if they wanted to come or if they just wanted to donate."

"It helped that we split up all of the different tasks," said Fennel. "Someone was in charge of getting sponsors, someone was in direct contact with the charity, and we just



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

all worked together to try to get as many people there as possible."

Despite efforts to plan a successful event, the group dealt with a stressful situation the night before the event due to a low number of signups.

"I think I speak for everyone when I say it got pretty stressful the few days prior to the event when we only had 60 people signed up," said group member Duke Travers '09. "But the PC student body really showed their support by showing up and creating a 150 plus turnout. It made Bowling for Autism a huge success."

Even though the turnout met the aspirations of the group, they worried that they may not meet their goal of acquiring a certain amount of monetary donations.

"We had a goal that we wanted to meet and the entire night people were asking us if we met it and we wouldn't know until later that night so it was really nerve-racking," said Fennel.

Luckily, the group was able to reach their goal of \$2,500 for Autism Speaks.

"At the event, admission was \$15 which included a free t-shirt," said Fennel. "A raffle was available too. Also, it was really nice that some people who couldn't even come paid the admissions fee because they really

liked the cause."

Due to the amount raised and the support of over 150 guests, the group agreed that Bowling for Autism was a great success.

"Everyone I talked to sounded like they had a great time, and hopefully the success of our event can help to generate interest in some of the other upcoming charity bowling events being put on by PC students," said Kidder.

Fennel said she also received positive feedback from those who attended Bowling for Autism.

"Everyone kept saying they had so much fun and it was just nice to see that everyone enjoyed themselves," he said.

Elated with the turnout and amount of money that they raised, the group recognized the value of hands-on learning throughout the course of the project.

"Gaining hands-on experience with coordinating an event, while in the process helping out a charity is a win-win," said Kidder.

# ARRESTS: Suspects Charged With Assault With a Deadly Weapon

continued from front page

altercation. The PC student and his two friends were stabbed. The two friends suffered minor stab wounds, while the PC student suffered a serious stab wound to the abdomen. No alcohol is believed to be involved in the incident.

"He was in the hospital for several days," said Leyden.

The victim was taken to the hospital by his friends. The Providence Police were then called to the hospital. After talking to the victims they proceeded to notify PC Security about the incident. Miele and Leyden worked together closely on the case.

"He's been in contact with me several times a week since then [Sept. 28]," said Leyden.

Miele seized a surveillance videotape of the incident from Golden Crust Pizza's two surveillance cameras. He then enhanced the tape and released it to the media. WPRI TV Channel 12 played the tape several times on the air. The suspects seen in the tape were then added to "Rhode Island's Most Wanted."

"That generated several calls to his [Miele's] office," said Leyden. "And a witness came forward, and provided the information that led to the arrest."

The case against Walsh and the juvenile suspect is considered a high profile case. Not many details are being released concerning the case.

This year has seen an increase in crime in the area surrounding PC and, according to Leyden, in the entire city of Providence.

"I don't know what that could be attributed to," said Leyden. "It could be the economy."

The Office of Safety and Security has been working closely with the Providence Police Department this year


to try to prevent more incidents like the Golden Crust stabbing from occurring.

The stabbing on Sept. 28 is not the only off-campus crime that PC students have been involved in this semester. Two students were also robbed at gunpoint in September while walking in the neighborhood around the College. The suspects were caught and charged with armed robbery. The victims were able to give Providence Police descriptions of the suspects and the vehicle in which they were traveling. A few hours after the students reported the armed robbery to Providence Police, the police stopped the vehicle. Inside they found BB guns. The PC students were able to positively identify the suspects after they were arrested.


Crime has not been isolated to the surrounding area. A student also had an iPod stolen while walking on campus by a juvenile. Sergeant David Marshall, Office of Safety and Security, worked with a resource officer from a local high school to positively identify the juvenile who stole the iPod. Detectives from the Providence Police Department were able to then arrest the suspect, charge him, and return the stolen iPod to its owner.

"Students should know when they are a victim of a crime they should call 9-1-1 and remain at the scene or move to a safe location and wait for police to arrive," said Leyden.

The Office of Student Affairs will be hosting an off-campus safety forum on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 5:30 p.m. in Slavin 117. Leyden, along with Lt. Mike Correia, district commander, and Richy Kless, director of Off-Campus Living, will be at the forum which is aimed at educating students about staying safe while off-campus. They will also discuss and give students information regarding recent crimes in the neighborhood.



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# Economic Summit Stresses Reform

BY MACKENZIE MANGO '10  
WORLD STAFF

INTERNATIONAL

ON SATURDAY, NOV. 15, about two dozen world leaders reached an agreement on a wide-ranging set of proposals to better regulate financial markets. Their goal is to put rules and early-detection systems in place over the next several months to proactively avoid a financial crisis like the one currently ravaging economies worldwide, according to CNN.

“Major underlying factors to the current situation were . . . inconsistent and insufficiently coordinated macroeconomic policies, inadequate structural reforms, which led to unsustainable global macroeconomic outcomes.

Joint statement of G20 leaders at this weekend's financial summit

”  
The leaders emphasized these reforms will only be successful if they are also based on a common commitment to free market principles, including open and competitive economies, expanded trade, and increased investment in capital flows.



World leaders at the G20 summit in Washington, D.C., pledged to work together to “restore growth” to the global economy. The leaders said they would meet again by April 30, 2009—most likely in London—to assess the progress of their initiatives.

Some observers characterized the summit as “Bretton Woods II.” Bretton Woods was a similar global economic summit held in July 1944, intended to reverse some of the detrimental trade and foreign exchange policies enacted in the wake of the Great Depression. It led to the development of such financial institutions as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The G20 meeting brought together key emerging-market countries like China, India, Brazil, and South Africa to examine the causes of the current mar-

ket fiasco. Combined, the G20 represents 90 percent of the world's economy and 75 percent of the global population.

In a declaration, the world leaders stated “Major underlying factors to the current situation were, among others, inconsistent, and insufficiently coordinated macroeconomic policies, inadequate structural reforms, which led to unsustainable global macroeconomic outcomes.” Ultimately, these developments, contributed to excesses, and allowed severe market disruption to rock the globe.

to supplement actions already taken to protect savings deposits, address regulatory deficiencies, and unfreeze credit markets. Specifically, this policy response must be based on closer macroeconomic cooperation to not only support emerging markets, but the markets of developing countries as well.

Immediate steps laid out to achieve these objectives include using “fiscal measures to stimulate domestic demand to rapid effect, as appropriate, while maintaining a policy framework conducive to fiscal sustainability,” according to a press statement following the summit. The group also called for regulators to improve oversight of credit rating agencies, whose potential for failure undermines stability.

Additionally, leaders want to help emerging and developing economies gain access to finance through liquidity facilities and program support. The leaders stated that they “stress the International Monetary Fund's important role in crisis response, welcome its new short-term liquidity facility, and urge the ongoing review of its instruments and facilities to ensure flexibility.” They also recognize and encourage the World Bank and other multilateral development banks to use their full capacity in support of the development agenda. Leaders also agreed not to raise new trade barriers over the next 12 months.

WHILE A great deal was addressed at the meetings, those involved expectedly sketched out an agenda for more work in coming months and acknowledged another meeting would occur early next year.

“It [the agreement] contains all that could be reasonably expected from such a reasonably quick gathering,” stated Raghuram Rajan, a professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, who served as the chief economist at the International Monetary Fund between 2003 and 2006.

“All this is an important first step,” Bush said at the conclusion of the conference. “In other words, this is a beginning of a series of meetings.”

Reportedly, Bush administration officials were in close contact with representatives of President-elect Obama about the G20 meeting. In his place, Obama sent Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Jim Leach, a former Republican congressman from Iowa. They conveyed President-elect Obama's determination to continue to work together on these challenges after he takes office in January. Overall, the attendees seemed convinced that Obama would not undermine the progress made during the weekend summit when leaders meet again, as the plans implemented are in line with his stance on the crisis.

## Ask PC

Do you think that the global economic summit will help to restore American's confidence in the markets?

“While it is a first step towards cooperation, I don't think people will feel reassured or confident until they can see positive changes in areas like the credit markets.”



Kassy Galuska '10

COMPILED BY MACKENZIE MANGO '10



Julianne McNamara '10

“If people see leaders cooperating together to regulate the market, they will be able to see that the financial crisis is at least being addressed effectively, even if it takes a while to sort out.”

THERE IS great hope that the meetings might help restore battered confidence in markets by highlighting key developing and emerging-market countries that are willing to work together. According to Reuters, the leaders came to agreement on an action plan identifying specific implementation measures, according to Dan Price, assistant to the president for International Economic Affairs. They recognized the continuing need to stabilize the financial markets and restore confidence in the financial sector. This will simultaneously spark and support growth.

“All this is an important first step. In other words, this is the beginning of a series of meetings.”

President George W. Bush, at the conclusion of the summit on Saturday, Nov. 15

”  
Their agreement also includes guidance for regulatory agencies, which some experts have faulted for not stopping the crisis before it reached its current level. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned that developed nations could be headed into their first full-year contraction since World War II, with U.S. national economic output alone likely to be reduced by 0.7 percent in 2009. The European Union officially declared Friday that it has entered into a recession, with its gross domestic product declining 0.2 percent for the second straight quarter. Additionally, the Russian stock market has lost 65.5 percent of its value since the start of the year. Stocks in Japan and the United States have been equally hit, falling 42 percent and 33 percent, respectively.

As a result, the leaders agreed that a broader policy response is needed



# Congo To Help Fight Rwanda Rebels

BY JENNY ARVANAGHI '10  
WORLD STAFF

AFRICA: Democratic  
Republic of the Congo



THE TIMES OF LONDON

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has agreed to cooperate with Rwanda in dealing with rebel forces along their common border. Despite agreeing to observe a ceasefire, rebels in eastern DRC renewed their offensive on Monday, Nov. 17.

passed and General Nkunda's forces continue fighting.

Recently, the foreign ministers of Rwanda and the DRC committed themselves to a course of action that can hopefully better the events taking place in this region. They met at a news conference in the Rwandan capital of Kigali. They agreed to Rwandan intelligence officers going into the Congo, to work with the Congolese army and the international community to help end the presence of the Hutu militia who have operated from the region.

The DRC's Foreign Minister Alexis Mwamba Thambwe spoke on the agreement, "We confirm our firm will bring a military plan, with man-power and material support from different countries, to enable us once and for all to put an end to the problem of the FDLR."

At the same time, the U.N. says it will move 60,000 people from a camp

north of Goma to a location west of the city in case of fighting. The people at Kibati camp are close to the front line separating government troops and rebels loyal to General Nkunda. The U.N. refugee agency is working on a new site called Mugunga III, where most people will have to make the 15 kilometer journey by foot.

The women of the Congo are also affected by the fighting. On Friday, women gathered at a sports stadium in Goma housing thousands of people who fled the fighting. They held up signs stating their despair for those who were killed and the eagerness for the fighting to stop.

One demonstrator told reporters, "Women are tired of this war. We are just the victims." A spokesman for the charity ActionAid told reporters that cases of rape and violence against women has even risen dramatically since the latest fighting broke out.

## Oddly Enough

BY LORRAINE DALTON '11  
WORLD STAFF

LOVE HANDLES are no longer as sweet as they sound. According to a study done on 360,000 people in nine European countries, fat around the waistline commonly referred to as "love handles" can increase the risk of death.

The study showed that "each extra two inches (5cm) raised the chance of early death by between 13 percent and 17 percent," according to the BBC. It is cheap and easy to get your waist measured when visiting the doctor and it can be an accurate indicator of how healthy you are.

The researchers followed the volunteers for 10 years, who were an average of 51 years old, during which time 14,723 of them died. For most people, if the Body Mass Index (BMI) score is higher, they are more prone to die from cardiovascular disease or cancer. Men with waists exceeding 47 inches had a doubled rate of death compared with those with waists under 31.5 inches. A similar statistic was found when women with waists over 39 inches were compared to those under 25.5 inches.

The reason for the direct link between waist fat and death has not been determined yet but doctors do know that the chemicals in waste fat have more harmful chemicals than fat from other areas of the body.

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# Sudanese President Declares Darfur Ceasefire

BY BRETT CORRIGAN '09  
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

AFRICA: Sudan

ON WEDNESDAY, Nov. 12, Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir declared a unilateral ceasefire in Darfur, according to Reuters.

The region, which has been plagued by indiscriminate and unrelenting war crimes, continues to be considered a "primary challenge," reported International Criminal Court Prosecutor Moreno Ocampo.

According to BBC reports, al-Bashir has promised federal militias would be disarmed and weapon use restrictions would be put in place among armed groups in the country.

"I hereby announce our immediate unconditional ceasefire between the armed forces and the warring factions, provided that an effective monitoring mechanism is put into action and observed by all involved parties," al-Bashir said.

Some have already expressed doubts regarding al-Bashir's intentions, calling it a PR stunt, as he is thought to have a major hand in the employment of genocide in the region.

On July 14, the ICC requested a warrant for the arrest of the Sudanese president, "for war crimes against humanity and genocide allegedly committed by him through members of the state apparatus, the army, and the Militia/Janjaweed in the context of an armed conflict against organized rebel groups." The request was still pending as of Oct. 15, when the ICC pre-trial chamber requested additional supporting evidence from al-Bashir's prosecutors.

While Sudanese rebel groups initiated the conflict, it has been widely believed that militia retaliations and sweeping infiltrations tied to al-Bashir's government are responsible for a continued flow of violence against innocent civilians.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir declared an immediate ceasefire in the Darfur region last week. The conflict in Darfur has reportedly claimed the lives of more than 200,000 people.

Accusations against al-Bashir include the killing of members of the Fur, Masalit, and Zaghawa ethnic groups, inflicting serious bodily and mental harm and the forced relocation of thousands to destroy ethnic communities. His alleged militia ties have carried out attacks on civilians throughout Darfur and have pillaged towns and villages making many areas essentially unlivable.

Since the situation was referred to the court by the U.N. Security Council on March 31, 2005, the ICC has worked with other countries in the region to establish a regional environment that supports ICC initiatives in Darfur and other areas of Sudan wrecked by violence. Over the summer ICC representatives met with officials in areas including Botswana and Gabarone, appealing to them for a regional effort to bring about international justice and a call to end human rights violations.

Regional leaders including Botswana's President Festus Mogae and others pledged their full cooperation

and support of the ICC in August. The U.N. and African Union currently have a peacekeeping force of approximately 11,000 in the Darfur region.

"It is African women that are being raped in Darfur. It is African children that are being killed in Darfur. It is African peacekeepers that are dying in Darfur. It is therefore the countries within the region that may be able to resolve the situation."

Al-Bashir's pledge, if upheld, would work to disarm militias in western Sudan as well, where reportedly over 200,000 people have died, and another 2.5 million displaced.

“

I hereby announce our immediate unconditional ceasefire... provided that an effective monitoring mechanism is put into action and observed by all involved parties.

Sudanese President  
Omar al-Bashir

”

Al-Bashir's statement made no mention, however, of plans to release political prisoners from Darfur.

Past failed attempts to instate a ceasefire in the region have also fed doubts that the ceasefire will be successful. The absence of Darfuri rebel groups, who are charged with initiating the conflict in 2003 were not involved in these most recent talks.

Peacekeeping forces are finding the most promise in the fact that al-Bashir's announcement will move the situation in Darfur to a prominent and urgent place in international headlines. Even those who see no potential for a ceasefire hope the announcement and spotlight will generate increased international pressure to put an end to human rights violations and restore some semblance of stability to the country.

## The Sunny Side

BY LORRAINE DALTON '11  
WORLD STAFF

PRESIDENT-ELECT Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) met Monday for the first time since the presidential election to talk about how they can work together on some of the most pressing problems facing the country.

McCain arrived at Obama's transition headquarters in Chicago around 11:00 a.m. The two were joined by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Obama's new chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel. Obama aides said the president-elect focused on common-ground issues, like climate change and ethics reform.

Obama also expressed concern about choosing a cabinet with qualified and capable officials so that he can reach across party lines. During his first television interview since the election, he told CBS' 60 Minutes that the global economic crisis provides an opportunity for the two parties to come together.

"You actually have a consensus among conservative, Republican-leaning economists and liberal, left-leaning economists. And the consensus is this: that we have to do whatever it takes to get this economy moving again, that we're going to have to spend money now to stimulate the economy," Obama said on the program, which aired Sunday, Nov. 16.



## THE AMERICAS

### UNITED STATES: Ailing Automakers Seek \$25 Billion in Aid

The executives of the three biggest U.S. automakers—Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler—pleaded Congress for a \$25 billion aid package on Tuesday, Nov. 16, and Wednesday, Nov. 17. They warned that their industry was on the brink of collapse and, without a rescue package, there would be broader risks to the U.S. economy.

"This is about much more than just Detroit," Rick Wagoner, the head of General Motors Corp., said in his testimony. "It's about saving the U.S. economy from a catastrophic collapse."

GM has warned it could run out of cash before the end of the year and cannot wait until President-elect Barack Obama, who promised to help the industry, is inaugurated in January.

The hearings came a day after Senate Democrats proposed to bail out the ailing industry with \$25 billion in government-backed loans. However, the automakers' pleas were met with much hesitation to using the government's rescue funds to bail out car firms.

Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.) said that the industry was "seeking treatment for wounds that were largely self-inflicted," according to *The Associated Press*. He noted, though, that "hundreds of thousands would lose their jobs" if the companies were allowed to collapse.

### UNITED STATES: Wildfires Continue to Blaze Through California

The wildfires that have ravaged homes and countryside in Southern California since last Thursday are still raging as of late Sunday, Nov. 16. Over 50,000 people have been displaced as they seek to escape the fires that have destroyed almost 1,000 residences.

The blaze has spread from Los Angeles County, to the east in Riverside and Orange Counties, and to the northwest in Santa Barbara County. In total, more than 34 square miles have been scorched.

No deaths have been reported so far, but the fire's destruction is taking its toll. One of the worst hit areas was a mobile home park in Los Angeles County. Police are using dogs to search the rubble where nearly 500 mobile homes were destroyed.

"This has been a very tough few days for the people of Southern California. We had the perfect storm—high winds, high temperatures and it is very, very dry," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said after touring damage.

Firefighters are working tirelessly to limit the fire's destruction.

### MEXICO: Interpol Chief Vargas Arrested

The head of Mexico's Interpol office was arrested on Wednesday, Nov. 19, as part of an inquiry into suspected links between officials and drug traffickers, according to the BBC.

Ricardo Gutierrez Vargas, Mexico's Federal Investigation Agency's International Police Affairs and Interpol director, was placed under house arrest as part of an investigation into leaks of information to drug cartels. He can be held for up to 40 days while allegations against him are investigated.

Four members of Special Organized Crime Investigation Division (SIEDO) have been arrested so far in connection with "Operation Clean-up," which weeds out corrupt officials with alleged links to drug traffickers. 35 other members have been sacked since the operation got underway in July, the Attorney General's office reports.

### CUBA: Castro Hosts Chinese President

China's President Hu Jintao embarked on an historic visit to Cuba on Monday, Nov. 17. He hoped to promote the growing friendship between China and Cuba, and signed a series of trade and investment deals with the island as well as extending a credit package to repair and renovate Cuban hospitals.

"My visit is aimed at increasing friendship and cooperation between our two nations, and working together with our Cuban comrades to build a promising future," said Hu, according to *The Associated Press*.

Cuba's president Raul Castro is a fellow communist who has solidified a long-standing relationship with China during his presidency. The visit was to have "historic significance," said Cuba's Foreign Affairs Minister Felipe Perez Roque on Saturday, Nov. 15.

Hu also met with Cuba's ailing former leader Fidel Castro, who appeared gaunt in photographs of the two men that were aired on Cuban TV.

Cuba is struggling to overcome the effects of the world financial crisis along with three hurricanes. China is now Cuba's second-largest trading partner at \$2.3 billion in 2007, despite stark differences in their economic policies and little direct Chinese investment.

Since the collapse of European communism, the countries have worked together to overcome a troubled past; specifically the siding of Cuba with the Soviet Union against China during the Cold War. Western diplomats have suggested that the meeting would deal mainly with the Cuban debts owed to China in a time where Cuba's economy is struggling to overcome a recession.

## week in REVIEW

BY RYAN MCKEON '09 AND  
MARY KATE NEVIN '09

## MIDDLE EAST

### AL QAEDA: Online Message Mocks Obama

The second-in-command of the militant terrorist network Al Qaeda warned President-elect Barack Obama on Wednesday, Nov. 19, that "a heavy legacy of failure and crimes awaits" him.

In an 11-minute Web posting, the authenticity of which has yet to be determined, Ayman al-Zawahiri criticized Obama's foreign policy positions on Afghanistan and Israel. He also accused Obama of betraying his Muslim roots, and called on Muslims to harm "criminal, trespassing" America, the BBC reported.

"You were born to a Muslim father, but you chose to stand in the ranks of the enemies of the Muslims, and pray the prayer of the Jews, although you claim to be Christian, in order to climb the rungs of leadership in America," the message said.

He also said Obama and former and current Secretaries of State Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice were the "direct opposite of honorable black American[s]" and instead fit Malcolm X's description of "House Negroes," a derogatory term used to describe blacks who were subservient to whites.

Obama has said stamping out al-Qaeda "once and for all" will be a top priority during his administration.

### IRAQ: Cabinet Approves Deal for U.S. Troop Withdrawal

The Iraqi cabinet has approved a security deal with the United States that calls for the withdrawal of American troops from Iraqi streets by the end of 2011.

The security pact will be sent on to Iraq's parliament where, if passed, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Maliki can sign the deal with U.S. President George W. Bush.

The deal is meant to end the American occupation of Iraq and phase out the assistance of coalition forces. The agreement requires the U.S. to get Iraqi consent before searching homes, prohibits Americans from conducting raids in other countries from Iraqi soil, and eliminates the judicial immunity that applies to foreign contractors and U.S. soldiers working in Iraq under the occupation's current mandate. Most notably, under the agreement, U.S. forces must begin to withdraw from the streets of Iraq's towns and villages by the middle of 2009.

The vote in Parliament is uncertain, but U.S. National Security Council spokesman Gordon Johndroe said the U.S. will "remain hopeful and confident we'll soon have an agreement that serves both the people of Iraq and the United States well and sends a signal to the region and the world that both our governments are committed to a stable, secure and democratic Iraq."

Failure to pass the security agreement could deal a damaging blow to the already sensitive Iraqi security.

### SYRIA: Bombed Site 'Resembled Reactor'

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported on Wednesday, Nov. 19, that a Syrian site bombed by Israel last year had features resembling a nuclear reactor.

The IAEA said "significant" traces of uranium were found at the site, but did not exclude the possibility that it could have been used for purposes unrelated to nuclear activity, according to the BBC.

"While it cannot be excluded that the building in question was intended for non-nuclear use, the features of the building, along with the connectivity of the site to adequate pumping capacity of cooling water, are similar to what may be found in connection with a reactor site," said the report, the IAEA's first on the site bombed by Israeli warplanes in Sept. 2007.

Syria has maintained that the site was a disused military building.

## EUROPE

### RUSSIA: Politkovskaya Murder Case Opens

Three men have gone on trial in a military court in Russia for involvement in the murder of Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya, but the judge ruled that the trial would not be open to the public.

Politkovskaya, a leading critic of Russia's policies in Chechnya, was shot dead on her doorstep in Moscow on Oct. 7, 2006. She had travelled frequently to Chechnya and the North Caucasus detailing the horrors of war in the region. Her murder shocked the international community.

"I am very disappointed. I think this trial should have been open, not only because all trials should be, but because she was a public figure and the public should know the circumstances of her killing," said Karinna Mosk-alenko, a lawyer for Politkovskaya's family.

The defendants all pleaded not guilty to charges on Wednesday, Nov. 19, according to defense lawyer Murad Musayev.

Investigators say Rustam Makhmudov, who is believed to have actually killed Politkovskaya, and the people who ordered her killing remain at large.

### SPAIN: Breakthrough Surgery Successful

Surgeons in Spain have carried out the world's first tissue-engineered whole organ transplant, and the BBC reported on Wednesday, Nov. 19, that the surgery has been deemed a success.

The surgeons used a windpipe made with stem cells from the patient, 30-year-old Claudia Castillo, who had the surgery in June.

"I was very much afraid. Before this, we had been doing this work only in pigs... It was a very positive surprise," said Surgeon Professor Paolo Macchiarini of the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona.

The European team believes such tailor-made organs could become the norm.

"This will represent a huge step change in surgery. Surgeons can now start to see and understand the potential for adult stem cells and tissue engineering to radically improve their ability to treat patients with serious diseases," said Martin Birchall, professor of surgery at the University of Bristol, who helped grow cells for the transplant.

## AFRICA

### SOMALIA: Government Admits It Is Near Collapse

Somalia's President Abdullahi Yusuf announced Sunday, Nov. 16, that his government is at the point of collapse due to the slow advance of Islamic insurgents on Mogadishu, the country's capital. Yusuf also admitted that the majority of Somalia is now out of his control and in the hands of Islamic fundamentalists who have taken power by violent force.

Somalia has been in the throes of war and chaos for 17 years. The capture of Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, would mark the end of governmental control entirely.

"We, ourselves, are behind the problems and we are accountable in this world and in the hereafter. Islamists have been capturing all towns and now control Elasha. It is every man for himself if the government collapses," Yusuf told some of his legislators in neighboring Kenya on Saturday.

The violence in Somalia has ignited turmoil in neighboring nations along with a wave of pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden, an important trade route between Asia and Europe.

### UGANDA: Amnesty International Accuses

#### Government of Ignoring Displaced War Victims

Fought against the rebel Lord's Resistance Army, the Ugandan civil war has resulted in a disturbing number of abducted children and thousands of deaths among Ugandans.

"Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children... remain destitute and physically and mentally traumatised due to the government's failure to put in place a comprehensive reparations programme," Amnesty International said in a report.

Though the past two years have seen a dwindling of violence, many Ugandans have been left to fend for themselves. The government has not interceded to aid in the rebuilding of broken homes and shattered lives.

The victims are seeking compensation for the destruction of their livelihood—killed livestock, burned crops—but also a solution to the displacement of nearly two million people.

"Thousands of Ugandans still bear the physical and mental scars of the abuses they suffered," Amnesty's Uganda researcher Godfrey Odongo said in a statement. "They are unable to go forward with their lives. They desperately need government assistance to help them come to terms with the ordeals they survived and rebuild their lives."

The Ugandan government was not available for comment.



## To Stabilize, We Must Privatize



BY JOE SIRIANNI '10  
COMMENTARY STAFF

POLITICS

When it comes time for the students of today to graduate, what will be their economic prospects for the future? The truth is, the future has never looked so grim. Our society will no longer provide for the fiscal security of young people, starting from the first day they begin working. With all the problems the country faces today, it is ridiculous, yet unsurprising that the Social Security issue has not dominated the headlines. Yet the legitimacy of the crisis is unquestionable. Social Security as we know it will not last. For every year that the government refuses to address this issue the nation suffers an additional \$600 billion to the deficit.

As most know, Social Security is a social welfare program funded through a percentage of the payroll taxes of the American people. It was initially signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935 during the Great Depression, when 50 percent of senior citizens were considered below the poverty line. Its purpose was to be a system of social insurance that would allow workers to contribute a percentage of their earnings in order to have some guarantee of financial protection in the future. The United States Social Security Program is currently the single largest government program in the world. With close to a \$500 billion budget, the program's cost is roughly 20 percent of yearly federal expenditures.

Social Security is a pay-as-you-go system, which means that the workers of today pay taxes that benefit those who are currently retiring. When Social Security was just beginning around 1940, there were forty-two workers for every retiree. Since then, that number has come down significantly. By 2030 to 2040, it is projected that only two workers will exist for every retiree. The White House predicts that by the year 2017, the government will have to find a new way to back up the promises of the Social Security system. By this date, however, the program will begin to pay out more than it takes in by a significant amount. The government will be unable to come up with the necessary funds it has obligated itself to. Consequently, the American people will most likely be burdened with higher taxes, an increased debt, reduced benefits, and cuts to vital government institutions and programs.

Privatization is the answer. President Bush attempted to solve the problem of Social Security in 2005 with a partial-privatization plan. He failed to push the legislation hard enough in Congress and gave in easily after receiving pressure against the plan. This does not mean it isn't the right solution. In a private system, each worker will be saving for himself; not for other people. The private system will allow the citizens—the workers of this country—to control their own assets, instead of letting the politicians control it in gov-

SOCIAL SECURITY/Page 10

## Get Your Obama Facts Straight

He won the election; now Andy Kowal '10 cuts through the rumors to portray Obama accurately



BY ANDY KOWAL '10  
COMMENTARY STAFF

POLITICS

So I know all of you *Cowl* readers must be excited that the election is over so that you do not have to read any more commentary pieces about McCain or Obama that half of you will agree with and the other half will be crazily irritated with. But I have to talk about the election just one last time. We have already let the conservative commentators try and make you think Obama is the devil so now it's the liberal's turn to set you straight. For all of you who have certain questions about Obama as president, I am going to use my article to address them and either quell your fears or just make fun of you for having such ridiculous concerns in the first place.

One of the major concerns I heard during this election cycle was that Obama was the "risky" candidate. I say, let's take a risk! It is better to have Obama and have the chance for the country to turn around than to have the certainty of economic depression and escalation of wars under McCain. But I do not want to attack McCain; he lost, he has been through enough.

Another thing I have heard people

say is that Obama is "radical" or "too liberal." I am not really quite sure what people mean by that. All I have heard him talk about is making college affordable, getting off foreign oil, making sure everyone has access to health care, stopping wars, and making America safe through diplomacy. If that is the radical or liberal view then throw me in a tie-dye shirt and bell-bottoms and call me Moonbeam because that sounds pretty good to me.

“

People think of Communist countries like North Korea, Cuba, and China and think of cruel dictatorships.

”

There are also people who believe Obama is actually a Muslim. I am not even going to try and dignify that notion with evidence to the contrary, of which there is much. First off, if you believe this, I would ask you: Why does it even matter? We got attacked by grade-A nut jobs on September 11, 2001, not Muslims. So let me say to all of you who still believe this, you have to be one of the dumbest, most ignorant, lowest denomination of a person that exists.

Go back to your pick-up truck and listen to your NASCAR race and leave the politics to people with an IQ higher than 45.

Recently, a charge has been made that he is a "socialist." It is perhaps the connotation of this word more than its actual meaning that scares people. People think of communist countries like North Korea, Cuba, and China and think of cruel dictatorships. They fail to realize that tyrants just used those ideas as a method to attain power and then run their countries however they wanted. Look at China, which is anything but communist at this point. I do not believe that Obama is a socialist, but if he is then who cares? We have been living under an economic fascist for the past eight years, let's try something new.

To those people who were worried about people like William Ayers and Jeremiah Wright and their association with Obama, let me just say. I have had friends, good friends, that have ideas and beliefs that I think are ridiculous and a little crazy. That does not mean that they are not good people or that they are not my friends. I do not surround myself with people who believe everything I do—that would be boring. (This is more directed toward the Rev. Wright concerns.) And yes, I have even had a few priests at my church in my lifetime

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## Consumers Spend Carelessly

BY ANDREW SPARKS '09  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Now that the excitement concerning the election has subsided, Americans can now fully appreciate the fact that over the last four months, gas prices

ECONOMICS have been roughly cut in half. As the *Providence Journal* reports, this is due to a decrease in crude oil prices coupled with an eight to nine percent decrease in demand nationwide.

Just think: an eight to nine percent decrease in gas consumption. It is precisely this dramatic decrease in gas usage that moved OPEC nations to increase production a few months ago—they were afraid of the fact that Americans were increasingly becoming independent of oil and gas. So now that we've proven to ourselves and others that we can save money and curb our consumption, it would be reasonable to continue to do so, especially in light of the recent economic turmoil. As a matter of fact, though, many Americans are neither saving money nor curbing consumption of gas and other commodities.



MATT LONGOBARDI '10/THE COWL

For example, of several people interviewed by the *ProJo* concerning the new drop in gas prices, a vast majority claimed that they had no intention of maintaining the financial discipline they adopted when times were tougher. To be fair, some of those interviewed will continue efficient driving habits and intend to spend the extra money on Christmas shopping or groceries. However, more claimed they simply intend to drive more and increase gas usage to their past levels.

The decision of these individuals consciously make to not save money or responsibly reinvest it is mind-boggling, and is exactly the financially irresponsible behavior that got us into the economic mess we're now in on a national scale. In fact, a few years ago the press noted that for the first time since the Great Depression, Americans were actually spending more than they made. In other words, incredible amounts of goods were being purchased on credit, and on average no money was being set aside in the bank as savings. For those economists who kept this fact in mind, the current economic crash comes as no surprise. A common example of this over-reaching are those people who simultaneously sit on several mortgages, expecting to "flip" houses and make a quick buck. It is not surprising that in many cases these real-estate ventures end in failure. These defaulted mortgages joined with the incredibly inept mismanagement of mortgage companies inevitably led to the disastrous home crisis.

This week, the "Big Three" American automotive companies have reached out their hands, asking for about \$25 billion from the government to keep them from going under. The current financial difficulties of the

automakers originally came from having to live up to shortsighted promises made to unions decades ago concerning retiree benefits. At the time, the American automotive industry was booming, so there was no desire to see if the union demands were actually feasible and reasonable. However, in large part these problems have been confronted and solutions have been offered. The new round of financial difficulty that Detroit is experiencing is the result of a conscious choice to continually rely on SUV and truck sales, despite decreased market demand due in large part to high gas prices. While the automotive industry by its very nature is a guessing game concerning what people will buy about five years up the road, their current problems are clearly a result of conscious mismanagement, not bad luck. That is because even five years ago, the American market began to shift dramatically towards a preference of more efficient vehicles, so the choice to continue development and production of less efficient vehicles is a deliberate misstep.

The housing crisis, Wall Street crash, and the automotive industry crisis are all direct results of fiscal irresponsibility. The shortsightedness expressed by the average American consumer in his or her choice to not plan ahead financially is merely a microcosm of what's going on in corporate circles. Namely, the mortgage companies who offered risky loans, the Wall Street traders who invested in doomed stock, and the automakers who continue to make cars that no one intends to buy are all examples of poor foresight and greedy overreaching. The current bailout scheme, therefore, sets a bad precedent in rewarding this kind of behavior, and can only mean bad things to come.



# OBAMA: His Friends, Politics, and Religion

continued from page 9:

that have gone off the deep end and said things that they should not have. As far as the Ayers thing, they sat on a board together. They are not BFFs. Back off, you right-wing crazies.

Obama is going to be an excellent president and I am so excited that we will finally have someone in that office who will actually do what is best for America—someone who will think carefully before sending our cit-

izens into danger and who will, to the best of his ability, to unite the country. People have already started attacking his presidency and looking at who will run in four years before he has even set foot in office. So to everyone who is still worried about his presidency I say suck it up. We have a new president so get behind him, or at least wait until he has actually started the job before attacking him.

## SOCIAL SECURITY: Privatization is the Key

continued from page 9:

ernment. People don't realize that they have absolutely no legal claim or right to their benefits. Congress can significantly reduce or abolish benefits at any time. The system of private investment is at least controlled by the individual.

“Social Security was never meant to just be another tax, another way for the government to take more money from the people. Social Security was supposed to help those in need.”

The privatization of Social Security involves a considerable change for the political and economic dynamics of the United States. The people of America however, realize that there must be a change. Recent public opinion tends to favor the idea of private accounts as an option for solving the problem.

Privatization would involve the option of continuing to pay into the government system, or instead, attempting to create a private stock and bond account which could be managed personally or by a hired professional investment company. Beginning at a certain date, workers who have not yet entered the workforce will no longer be provided with the option of the government-run

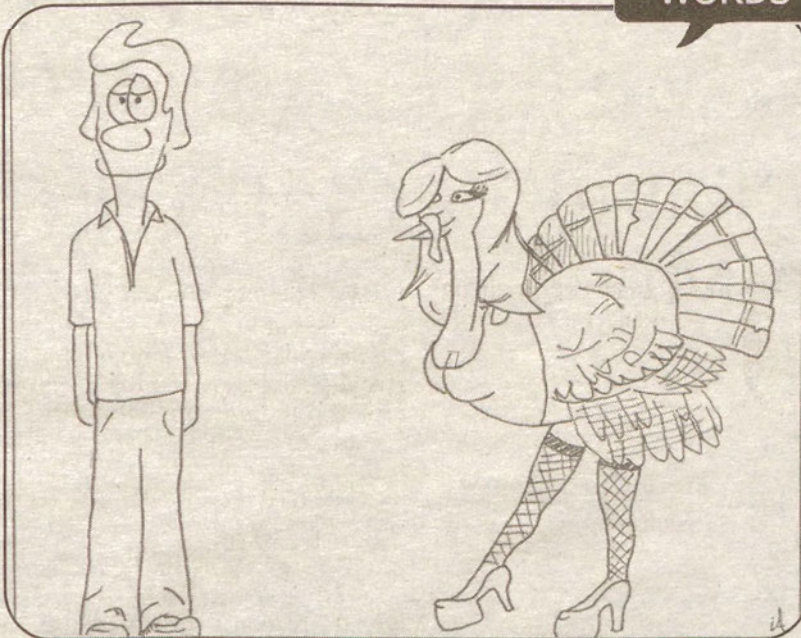
system. Through this requirement, the system will eventually be entirely phased out.

One concern about private investment is that investing into the stock market will be too risky and not produce the same rate of return as the current system generates, especially with the current state of our economy. Yes there are always inherent risks when dealing with the market. The fact of the matter is, there are no guaranteed benefits in either system. Staying with the current Social Security system is arguably even more risky than private investment. The economy will recover. Buying stock now for less and selling later for profit is basic, smart economics. Warren Buffet, one of the world's most successful investors, has said, “Be fearful when others are greedy, and be greedy when others are fearful.”

Social Security was never meant to just be another tax, another way for the government to take more money from the people. Social Security was supposed to help those in need. It was supposed to be an institution that allowed people to contribute a portion of their earnings in order for them to receive some “security” for their future. Sadly, the current system is no longer able to provide this for the citizens of the United States. Why not give the people back their money and allow them to decide their own futures? Privatization is not an option, it is the only option, and the sooner we switch away from the old system, the brighter the future of this country will be.

BY ISA ALI '10 AND JOE MCMENAMIN '10  
COMMENTARY STAFF

TOO  
HOT FOR  
WORDS



“Mitch was looking for the best turkey for stuffing.”

## Appreciate the Arts

BY JEFF GAHAN '11  
COMMENTARY STAFF



In today's society, it seems as though music and the arts are getting swept under the rug. I feel that Providence College should do more to raise awareness of the many amazing student artists there are on campus. The Smith Center for the Arts is always full of people with amazing talent for both music and theater. I feel as though these student's are not being fully recognized for their talent and abilities. Almost every Friday, there is what is called “Fridays at Four,” when, at four o'clock, many different music majors play different songs. Usually only lasting one hour, the Music Department provides a great opportunity with “Fridays at Four” to allow students at PC to enjoy great music from fellow students.

Similarly, the Theater Department puts on a number of different plays and musicals that occur more than once on a given weekend, allowing students ample opportunities and selections to witness awesome performances. Together, both the Dept. of Music and Dept. of Theater, Dance, and Film put on amazing shows and performances, and stu-

dents at PC should really get out and see them.

There are many other music-related events that occur weekly students of which should also take advantage. Bands play in McPhail's on a regular basis; some of these bands are student bands that would love the support of fellow students. The PC Band, commonly referred to as the Pep Band, plays every weekend at sporting events; sometimes they play more than once a week. Attending most of the men's hockey and basketball games, as well as selected women's hockey and basketball games, the Pep Band really helps contribute to the social environment of college sports. This year, the Pep Band received less funding from the school, so in order to compensate, they are having a fundraiser on Nov. 22, at 7 p.m., in '64 Hall. With two acoustic performances, as well as three student rock groups, and the headlining band Sameday Providence, this event is sure to be a hit. It will provide a great opportunity to students to get involved with the musical culture here at Providence, rather than having music become a lost art.

Got something to say?  
The Cowl encourages you  
to submit a Letter to the Editor  
or Guest Commentary!

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All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, a phone number, and an e-mail address where he or she can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Anyone whose letter is given consideration for publication will be contacted by the Commentary editor to verify the author and confirm the authenticity of the piece.

Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length, and only one will be published per week. The Cowl editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles for space and clarity. If there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, however, please inform the editor-in-chief. Letters to the edi-

tor are the opinions of the writer only and do not reflect the viewpoint of The Cowl staff.

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# Movies that Can Teach us Lessons: Part Two



BY MICHAEL PETTINARI '09  
COMMENTARY STAFF

ENTERTAINMENT

Before I begin I just want to let everyone know, Barack Obama did in fact win the election. I don't know what on earth we're going to talk about now. But I trust these people. They'll think of something good.

It's time for another movie article. I want you to forget about the last article.

But I digress. I find myself sitting at my computer at 1:30 a.m. on Monday morning. On television, the movie *Hook* starring Robin Williams and Rufio is playing. I've never been happier.

This movie, like the rest you'll read about in this piece, can teach us a lot about life. I mean, think about it: We all can be the old Peter type; a workaholic who takes his job way too seriously, leaving no time for his children or family. But Peter transforms into the younger, awesome Peter. Peter Pan. All of a sudden the tyrannical Dustin Hoffman doesn't matter. The message: Take some time to be young again. Life can't be just work and no play. And the one thing it teaches us for sure: Never take yourself too seriously.

What other movies are on at this hour? Oh yeah, Bravo has been showing *The Godfather* trilogy for three straight days now. Should you ever find yourself in control of a major organized crime family, this movie is for you. But this movie is also for us regular folk. It tells us to follow our destiny, teaches us to understand what the word family really means, and most importantly, it tells us to keep our friends close, but our enemies closer. It also tells us to, after all acts of murder have

been committed, leave the gun, and take the cannoli.

*Jawbreaker?* Remember that monstrosity? I guess it taught us not to talk about someone behind his back. It is always better to be up front with someone. With all the bad stuff that's going on in the world, at least we should be able to talk to each other. I suggest that this holiday season, we be more up front with people and not try to focus on the bad things about each other.

Speaking of Christmas: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* was on the other day. The importance of that movie? Don't let a slimy green furry guy with a sad little dog ruin your holiday, because in the end, he was only jealous of your good time and food. (Even if he takes your last can of Who Hash.) We should all be like Cindy Lou Who and be able to look past the Grinch's costume, and see him for another person: Santa.

Let's see I've got room for one more. You know who I absolutely love? David Bowie. And what movie was David Bowie in? *Labyrinth*. That's right. In the movie *Labyrinth*, Bowie plays the Goblin King, who takes the beautiful Jennifer Connelly's baby brother, Toby. The labyrinth is, in itself, a metaphor. If you do find yourself stuck in a labyrinth and are never sure of your way out, stick to what you know. Stick to your basic instinct, and realize whatever you're up against won't beat you. And although you will most certainly beat it, because you are better than it, keep in mind you will never be better than David Bowie. Ever.

Stay tuned. See you back here next week. Same Bat Time. Same Bat Channel.

# Protesting Abortion as a Witness of Faith

BY ROB MURPHY '10  
GUEST COMMENTARY

On Friday Oct. 31, Thomas J. Tobin, the Bishop of Providence, prayed outside a Planned Parenthood located ten minutes from Providence College.

RELIGION

Bishop Tobin said that he wanted to show his support for the 40 Days for Life that had been going on since September.

The 40 Days for Life (Sept. 26—Nov. 4) is a peaceful movement that aims to end abortion in America through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach. An individual could do anything from organizing events between parishes to adding the choice of life for unborn infants in their prayer intentions.

Throughout the last two semesters, I have routinely prayed outside the same Planned Parenthood in Providence that Bishop Tobin visited on Oct. 31. Every Friday I would travel with anywhere from two to 30 persons to the Planned Parenthood building about ten minutes from campus. We would pray the rosary while standing on the sidewalk for about an hour or more and then we would return to campus. I encourage Catholics to pray outside any place where abortions are performed. I find it is a good type of public witness to the faith.

I had been slacking in my participation in the 40 Days for Life for the most part, but I knew that I wanted to see Bishop Tobin and pray with him. With a little rescheduling, four PC students (Dan Taylor '09; Michael Acciardo '10; Katie Krouse '10; Susie Cheely '11) and myself were able to join Bishop Tobin at noon in prayer. As we parked our car and headed to the sidewalk across from the Planned Parenthood building, I could see a crowd of people gathered around Bishop Tobin. He thanked us for all our participation in the pro-life movement and began to lead us in the Litany of the Saints. He then gave a general blessing to the crowd and encouraged all who could to stay for the rosary. I volunteered to introduce the second joyful mystery, but was too nervous to remember whom Our Lady had visited while she was three months pregnant—Bishop Tobin reminded me that it was St. Elizabeth.

Bishop Tobin allowed us to take a picture with him and ask him a few questions. As a Catholic college student, I was particularly concerned about how I could be using my time to better serve the Church and help those that could not help themselves. Bishop Tobin spoke to us about the importance of being a "public witness" to the faith.

"These kind of witnesses are important—especially for college

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# Tangents and Tirades

**Crunch time.** Why is it that, regardless of what classes I take, my professors always shove everything that's due into the same week, invariably the week before a break? It's almost as if they talk to each other and say "How can we make Ben's life miserable this week? After all, he has to *earn* his five-day weekend!" Ha! To assume that is to assume something absurd, namely, that professors actually acknowledge that you have other things to do. Every class I've been in, it seems like the professor assumes that you have nothing else to do besides his or her workload, completely ignoring the other three or four classes and the numerous other activities in which many students are involved. At the beginning of this semester I had barely anything to do, and even got ahead on my homework sometimes, but now towards the end all my professors are realizing they didn't cover quite what they were hoping to and have begun to rush assignments and pile them on faster than I can chum them out. When that happens, all you can do is buckle down and slug your way through it. I mean, who needs sleep anyway, right? — Ben Perry '10

**A sign of student similarity.** Imagine, if you will, a situation that I believe to be alien to no student anywhere. You are sitting in class, probably in a circle of desks, discussing some work of literature with your professor and classmates. You were overwhelmed with work the night before, so you chose to utilize Spark Notes instead of reading the actual text of the literature being discussed. Your grip of concentration on the discussion begins to loosen slightly and your mind momentarily drifts elsewhere. Suddenly you are shaken from this daydream when you hear someone utter a phrase that sounds vaguely familiar to you. One of your classmates has just made a rather good point on the material, but that is not why his or her sentence has just grabbed your attention. Something about that previous comment sounds too profound to have been originated in the mind of a student. That's when you remember why your classmate's thesis sounds so familiar to you. Apparently he or she read Spark Notes too last night, specifically the "Analysis" section. That's right, you just heard your classmate quote a line from Spark Notes, verbatim. At that point, you know that at least you and the person who made the comment are on the same wavelength regarding the subject at hand. At that moment there is an unspoken camaraderie between whoever made the comment and everyone else who read the condensed version of the book the previous night. The next time you notice this in class, try to give the commenter a slight nod of recognition accompanied by a smirk of amusement. — Chris Slavin '12

**The anti-intellectual bandwagon.** The American people are, for lack of a better word, stupid. This results from both circumstance and, in a much more disconcerting way, free choice. Not only are people stupid, but because of the insecurity caused by that dumbness they begin to resent intellectual acuity and curiosity that in any way prods the status quo. By nature, I possess a strong compassion for the downtrodden and abused social pools. However, near-ubiquitous idiocy makes any brand of sympathy almost impossible. In my dynamic travels between classes (I can morph from destitute vagrant to urbane socialite in a matter of seconds), I have realized that stupidity is not dependent on wealth or status, but on the rigidity of the class structure itself. People who take solace in tradition and custom during times of national and global turbulence succeed only in further secluding their inherited milieu. Clinging to that societal base then becomes a matter of honor and dignity grounded in stereotypical norms. Imbecility, because of its permanence, is brilliantly used by controllers and power-wielders. Why on earth or in heaven would the ruling coterie attempt a shift toward their own socioeconomic platform, when the masses allow them full and utter autonomy while marching in a soporific stupor? — Matt Miller '09

**Ditch the stats.** As the new basketball season gets underway, let us free our minds from the obfuscatory influence of per-game statistics. Measures which rate teams and players by how many points, rebounds, etc. they record per game are inherently affected more by pace and playing time than by the actual skills they intend to quantify. Instead, one must examine the game on per-possession basis, an approach practiced for decades by the great coach Dean Smith and by pioneering researchers such as Dean Oliver. Just last year, the Basketball Prospectus website was launched as the definitive locus for tempo-free stats and commentary, so now everyone is far better equipped to evaluate teams, players, and conventional wisdom. You might remember that our own Jeff Xavier led the Friars with 12.4 points per game last season, but you probably had no idea that while Xavier was on the floor, he ended 4.16 percent of his opponents' possessions by stealing the basketball. This was the second-highest "steal rate" in the Big East and, as BP guru John Gasaway observes, one "identical to that of renowned disrupter Jerel McNeal of Marquette." This is what we are all about at the Collegium Providentiensis: Basketball, and brandishing the torch of illumination in order to reveal truth. It is our duty as Friar fans to turn tempo-free. — Jeremiah Begley '10

**George Bush: Media darling?** Immediately after the announcement of Barack Obama's victory over John McCain, pundits in the media began asking for Obama's dissenters to put aside their differences and unite behind our President-elect. Such a plea is ironic coming from the crowd that gave no such chance to President Bush over the past eight years. It is interesting to note, however, the tone that the media has taken to George Bush since last week's transition meeting between the President and Obama at the White House. For instance, CBS' Katie Couric noted, "It was one gracious couple welcoming another." NBC's Andrea Mitchell stated that "Laura and George Bush could not have been more gracious." David Gergen said, "They are being gracious about it." Paul Begala complimented "The grace, class that the Bushes showed. . ." And finally, Charlie Rose reported, "I keep hearing reports that the President has been very gracious about all this." Several other mainstream media outlets spoke of President Bush's "graciousness." While Bush is not a conservative leader in the tradition of Ronald Reagan, his administration has made great strides in cutting taxes, defending the unborn and waging the war on terrorism. It is President Bush who has kept America safe from another terrorist attack in the years after 9/11. Far from giving credit to Bush where credit is due, it seems that our 43rd President will only receive praise from the mainstream media when he is nice to a liberal. — Mark Scirocco '10

**It's raining, it's pouring. . .** It has pretty much rained every weekend this entire semester. No joke. And I don't mean just a few sprinkles; we have had some epic rainstorms. It is truly unfair because during the week the weather is absolutely gorgeous. For example, on this Monday morning I am staring out my window and there is not a cloud in the sky. But you bet your life come Friday and Saturday night the sky will open up and say, "Hah, there you go you damn little PC kids. . . no fun for you!" So there you are, at a party on Pembroke soaking wet, and it is truly a personal problem when everyone else's hair and makeup survived the weather but you have arrived resembling a combination of Medusa and Cruella De Vil. Cute. . . thumbs up girlfriend! Sometimes my friends and I have even discovered staying in on such nights that Noah can be seen through the fog, gathering two of every kind of animal, are best left to the amateurs. There is absolutely no chance that you would even considering carrying an umbrella because you would definitely lose it and wearing a rain jacket would certainly be a fashion faux-pas if I have ever seen one. Hmm, I am sensing a girl's night! Who wants to watch *Mean Girls*? — Jenn DiPirro '12



# Letters to the Editor:

Remembering Brother Kevin and recognizing the members of Friars Club

While following Brother Kevin's funeral procession I wanted to say, "Thank you!" to every single Friar who stood at attention; all of whom were spaced to line the entire way from St. Dominic's Chapel to the Dominican cemetery on campus. The ceremonious dimension the Friars added to the day was inspiring and humbling.

When I was at Providence College, some of the Friars Club members with whom I had my personal differences, I still respected their efforts as Friars Club members. I knew that the significance of the office each held was larger than the personality of any one person. What I respected then, as I do now, was an organization and a group of young men and women, who give their time and effort which makes PC better.

Especially at times like these, I hope everyone at PC will thank those students in the Friars Club for being Friars.

Lastly, I hope the Friars Club and the PC community realizes that one of the key reasons Brother Kevin was such an excellent moderator of the Friars Club was because he had the Dominican charism. I pray that the Friars Club finds another Dominican priest or Dominican brother to be their moderator. The Dominican charism has helped make the Friars Club the organization it is today. "That feeling" that makes PC the special place it is... the Dominican charism.

—John J. Olohan '95

The former Cowl Commentary Editor weighs in on an article and the section

Let me begin by saying that there is nothing wrong with writing about the mundane. I practically invented it during my three years writing for *The Cowl* at Providence College. Okay, that may be an overstatement; however, I did take pride in my articles on Raymond Cafeteria. Granted, Jenn DiPirro '12 would not have known this as she is a freshman and never wrote for Commentary when I was editor, and as I do not know you Jenn, I hate to use you as my guinea pig: But alas, I do have a few comments that are inspired by your article titled "Not Just a Fashion Statement" from the Nov. 13, 2008 issue of *The Cowl*. And this goes to all you writers on the Commentary staff (and I suppose all PC students).

Firstly, I hate UGGs. They not only look stupid when "one wears straight jeans and tucks the bottoms into their boots without awkward bunching, as a comfy shoe/slipper to accompany their comfy sweatpants, or with leggings and a skirt," but they are impractical. The fact that you have spent over \$360 in the past three years makes me question how you got into PC to begin with. You do realize that one pair of boots can last longer than one year right? Unfortunately for my argument, I do agree that they are warm, but you can also get a pair of fake UGGs for a tenth of the price. They are just as warm and "cute" and a lot more practical.

“ I commend you for being creative and stepping away from politics when it appears that is all my old staff can write about these days.”

Now that I have gotten that off of my chest, I must now address your topic choice. I commend you for being creative and stepping away from politics when it appears that is all my old staff can write about these days. Perhaps I did not encourage them to write more creatively when I was there; however, there is something special about finding something on campus or in the world that normally everyone would overlook, and writing about it, pointing out why it is important and bringing it to your readers' attention. I have always enjoyed reading these articles the most. It brings amusement and awareness to something that would otherwise be overlooked. Good work. I certainly hope that now that the election is over, you all start writing about more creative things like our young DiPirro did.

That being said, be careful what you choose as your creative topic. The fact that you like UGGs, for

example, is probably not the best topic to write about at Providence College. Have you not noticed that about 75 percent of all PC girls wear UGGs? Therefore, making these girls (guys do not care either way so girls are your target audience here) agree that UGGs are the best things since sliced bread would not be that challenging. In fact, you could have merely written a sentence saying "UGGs are great," and it would have "proven" the same thing you were trying to get across, and you wouldn't have insulted the other quarter of campus. (By the way, Crocs are wicked comfortable. If you are going to like UGGs, then that's one thing, but do not bring Crocs into it as they have nothing to do with this fashion "phenomenon" you mention. They are not even in the same shoe family for cryin' out loud!)

This leads to my next point of being diplomatic. If you are going to say something, take into consideration that someone out there is going to be reading it and to get them to agree with you, you have to have a very fragile balance of calling them dumb without actually calling them dumb. Please note my second paragraph. I intentionally made it insulting so that hopefully you would be turned off by my non-diplomatic behavior. While I stand by every word, there are better ways of getting that across. You are never going to get anywhere if you go around telling people that their footwear of choice is "heinous." In fact, you went so far and beyond your point, insulting anyone who does not put shoes above all else that I almost thought you were being satirical, something I wouldn't put past Ben Perry '10, but since I do not know you, I am going to have to assume that you are unfortunately being serious. (I say unfortunately because if that was a satire, then it was genius and I give you huge props.)

Well, I have probably overstepped any prior claims I once had over my once flawless Commentary empire, but please listen to me: Stop writing about the same friggin' thing every single week! But more than that, be creative and open your eyes to everything that has potential! Don't take writing so seriously, and once you do that, you may find that you are a better writer because of it. Again, Jenn, I apologize for verbally raping your article especially because I actually think you are a very good writer, and I was excited when I saw that someone wrote about something more than Obama and McCain, but I need and I want people to see that writing about the mundane can open great doors for them. After all, it was in the classes where I stepped away from the typical essay format that I achieved success. So, stick with it!

—Shannon Obey '08

# WITNESS: Students Join Bishop in Prayer

continued from page 11:

kids. . . You need to pray and give witness for human life."

Bishop Tobin referred me to the Human Life Guild, an organization that he founded in the fall of 2005 that encourages its members to be "people of life" through education, pastoral care, public policy, and prayer.

I asked Bishop Tobin whether or not it was necessary for those who desire to pray for an end to the issue of abortion to be standing outside Planned Parenthoods like we did that day.

"Absolutely," he responded. "It is very important to keep the issue alive... So many people forget about abortion because of the number of other important issues our country faces, like the economy and the war. That's fine, but our task is to keep the issue of abortion alive and twinge people's consciences."

I was happy to speak with Bishop

Tobin about being a public witness to the faith. The bishop seemed to be very clear on the subject: it is important to keep this issue in people's minds, and he thinks that college students in particular ought to be doing this. The fact that the bishop lead the rosary at the abortion clinic shows that he supports and encourages this form of public witness. I have to say that I am disappointed by the few number of Catholics at Providence College who do this. It seems that few Catholics today are willing to be uncomfortable for their faith.

Being able to stand and pray with Bishop Thomas Tobin was an unforgettable experience. He was very informative and helpful in his answers. I look forward to participate in the next event in the 40 Days for Life.

## THINGS WE ARE THANKFUL FOR:

The Cowl editors want to share with you, the faithful reader, all those things for which we are grateful. So sit back, relax, eat until your burst, and remember all the things we've got to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

"Change in Washington." —Matt Longobardi '10

"Change in my pocket." —John Mango '10

Free Cowl pizza on Wednesdays.

Good, competent writers and editors

—The Cowl staff

Fainting goats.

Chris' impression of Sean Connery as the Cowardly Lion.

—Pat Allen '10

Meal plans so I don't have to go grocery shopping (also so I can eat lunch with Pat four times a week).

¡Sangria!

—Jaime Croteau '09

The litany of stimulants and depressants that get us through the day.

1,000 years of Jackie Chan entertainment.

The James Bond Franchise.

—Chris Stadolnik '10

Roommate bonding, warm apple cider, and Wednesday nights in Slavin G05.

—Katie Caliva '10

Caffeine and friends we can depend on.

—Katrina Davino '10

Copy Editors!

Starbucks Signature Hot Chocolate and the return of other seasonal beverages.

Family, faith, friends. . . and falafel!

—Mary Kate Nevin '09


Emus hiding in The Wizard of Oz.

Moccasins.

—Devin Murphy '10









## GUITAR HERO TOURNAMENT

ROCK OUT WITH THE LATEST VERSION OF YOUR FAVORITE GAME:  
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# SUNDAY PROVIDENCE

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**Nov. 22**  
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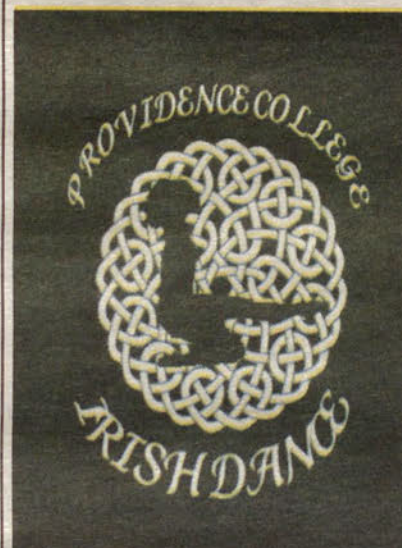
## Come Escape the Stress of Finals!

Simply Healthy presents:  
**Relaxation Cafe**  
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Enjoy free massages, food,  
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## Irish Dance Show!



PC Irish Dance Club proudly  
presents their fall semester

### IRISH DANCE SHOW!


**Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Doors open at **7:00**, Curtain at **7:30**

**Black Friars Theater,**  
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December 1st is  
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**37%** of new AIDS infections  
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## PC Dance Club

## Fall Performance!




**November 22 at 8:00**  
**November 23 at 2:00**  
**Angell Blackfriars Theatre**

**Tickets:**  
**\$2.00 – Students/Children**  
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**Tickets on Sale 1 hour before Show.**  
**Doors Open 1/2 hour before Show.**

## Don't Miss Your Men's Basketball Team

**PROVIDENCE**

**Thursday, November 20 vs. Sacred Heart 7:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, November 22 vs. Maine 2:00 p.m.**





# Breaking the Cycle Warps Laws of Morality

BY JOHN MANGO '10  
ASST. A&E EDITOR

I'm not much of a theater-goer. I'm going to lay prostrate for a minute; the last performance I happened upon was a quaint little adaptation of Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. And while the performance was indeed delightful, I was the only person in the audience who hadn't watched Nick Jr. that morning. So you might say I approached *Breaking the Cycle* with more than an ounce of ignorance, or stupidity, whichever you prefer. That being said, I happen to be a large fan of psychedelic drugs and David Lynch (they're pretty much the same). Kevin Black's '09 adaptation of three tastefully necrotic Greek tragedies was a powerful trip. Lord am I glad I dropped in.

The final scenes of orgy and bloodshed were taken from *Iphigenia at Aulis*, *Agamemnon*, and *Electra* and performed in that order. If you don't know much about Greek tragedy (I don't, so this is more for me than it is for you), generally someone lusts after someone they shouldn't, then someone sleeps with someone they shouldn't, then someone kills someone they think they should kill when they actually probably shouldn't. This cycle of lust, sex, and death is an integral issue, and here it is contained within the house of Aerastes. Now, we all read *The Odyssey* or *The Iliad* so hopefully everyone has an inkling as to what this dude's deal is. To war or not to war? That is the question he has to deal with. Eventually he gives into his lusty desire to spill some blood

and sacrifices his fauning daughter Iphigenia to Artemis. The good news is Greece kicks Troy's behind. The bad news is his wife Clytemnestra is really pissed that her little girl is dead. So she and her newly besotted lover Aegisthus rub out Agamemnon. And then Agamemnon's son Orestes returns to the house to whack those two. It is a rollicking rumble of death and destruction. But mankind weathers on.

The real triumph of the performance was Black's desire to embrace these scenes as abstractions. Having been cut from the body of their plays and stuck together cemented the validity of his direction. They were weird. The dress might have been bummed from the set of *Blade Runner*, as every character was fit with something that didn't quite have a place in time, but wasn't bizarre enough to be unrecognizable. The Greek chorus was clad in olive jumpsuits, giving a strong feeling of faceless conformity (emphasized of course by their creepy doll masks). This aesthetic was played over the jarring sounds of avant-garde music, which generally gives me nightmares, and worked well here. The very action of the play itself delved into pure abstraction. The initial sacrifice of



MARY PELLETIER '09/THE COWL

Kevin Black '09 combines the agony, sexual desire, and murder of three Greek tragedies into one reputable student production.

Iphigenia, the pure offspring of the struggling Agamemnon, was portrayed by a dance that bordered between a tribal ritual and the pure desire for physical movement. In fact, every circular action of sex and violence was presented in this way. And each time the chaos the Greeks were struggling to keep themselves from collapsing into was touched upon. The performance itself sat on boiling pot of the black unknown.

Each character struggled with their destiny but were their executions just? By the final act the unceasing futility of process slowly began to rear itself, but could it be broken? Should it be broken

in a world where evil is so impishly disguised as justice? Black responds. The program reads, "When justice isn't fulfilled, people begin to lose control. We hold the power. It is not fate, the gods, or others, who control the cycle." The very gluing of these acts together seeks to expose them in all their futility, to break us from the cycle.

Of course this message might not have been conveyed had it not

been for the actors' performances. The Furies, played by Conor Leary '11, Kelly Koeth '10, and Jackie Tirocchi '10 were all inhumanly menacing, and convincing as abstract forces. Each member of the Greek chorus performed as convincingly and notably a part of a pack mentality. However, Sarah Bedard '09, Stephan Mirando '09, and Lauren Annicelli '09 were surprising, unsettlingly brutal, and honest.

Theater enthusiast or not *Breaking the Cycle*, speaks on a level beyond sing-song musicals or soapish dramas. It has something to say. I'm glad Black felt the need to say it.

## Total Request Live Is Totally Over

Screeching Tweens Will Have to Take Their Neon Posters Elsewhere as MTV Packs up TRL

BY ALISON DENISCO '11  
A&E STAFF

I never thought I'd see the day, but MTV's *Total Request Live*, more commonly known during our middle school days as *TRL*, premiered its finale event last Sunday at 8:00 p.m. after 10 years of bringing us hoards of screaming fans in Times Square and 20-second clips of music videos.

Original host Carson Daly returned to co-host with Damien Fahey, who took over after Daly left in 2003. Frighteningly, Daly hasn't seemed to age over the past 10 years, even though he constantly (and annoyingly) referred to *TRL* life as "back in the day."

The finale kicked off with a performance by Beyoncé, a medley of her latest "If I Were a Boy" followed by "Single Ladies" and the song that kicked off her solo career, "Crazy in Love." Her high-energy performance gave the



MTV

Staring at a montaged playback of their youth, Justin Timberlake (left) and J.C. Chasez reflect on a decade of swooning girls, strategically baggy pants, and pouty ballad lips.

show a great start, but unfortunately it waned from there, reminding us all why the show is going off the air.

*TRL* premiered in 1998, as our generation's *American Bandstand*-type show. With 2,247 episodes and regular appearances of celebrities and musicians, the show reached its peak in 1999 and 2000, but ratings declined after the Internet and sites like YouTube became the preferred source for watching music videos that were not in short clips.

We got to see some of the ex-VJs, like Hilarie Burton (now of *One Tree Hill* fame) and Vanessa Minnillo (now of being Nick Lachey's long-time-replacement-of-Jessica fame). We also looked out on those glass studio windows into the crowd of freezing Times Square, sign-holding fans crying to be allowed into the studio to breathe the same air as the likes of Justin Timberlake and Taylor Swift.

The Backstreet Boys performed "I Want It That Way," bringing us all back to the days when Nick Carter was worshipped as a boy band god. Did you know they're still touring with new CDs coming out? As one VJ commented, "They outlived all the other boy bands, and they outlived *TRL*!" Fall Out Boy also sang a medley of "I Don't Care" and "Dance Dance," minus Pete Wentz, who was in California with his very pregnant wife Ashlee Simpson. Nelly, Snoop Dogg and Ludacris performed as a trio, and 50 Cent did his classic "In Da Club" followed by a new single, "Get Up." Everyone sounded pretty good, though none of the performances were extremely memorable, and you would think there would have been more for such an historic event in our time as the cancellation of *TRL*.

There was a sweet little interlude of Miley Cyrus trying to get her famous *TRL* photo booth picture to look as "badass" as Snoop Dogg's. Precious. Along those lines, we saw a clip of Heidi from *The Hills* attempting to rap with Nelly from a previous episode. Painful stuff, though Nelly did give her "an A for effort."

The grand finale was not without its random celebrity outbursts. Diddy, who has been on *TRL* about 40 times now, and always shamelessly promotes whatever CD/movie/TV show/clothing line he's involved with was given 15 about seconds. After trying to form a cohesive sentence about his new fragrance ("It's at Macy's now"), he decided to shout out "Kids! Turn off the lights! Save energy! Turn off the lights!" Glad to see Diddy's gone green. Later on, Daly got Eminem on the phone to talk about his 2002 visit to the *TRL* studio, which he apparently had no recollection of after babbling incoherently and then realizing all he had to say was how great it was and how he owes it all to *TRL*.

Christina Aguilera joined the party via satellite camera, looking kind of strange if you ask me, with her too-blond hair and heavy eye makeup. Daly recalled debuting her first single "Genie in a Bottle," and watching her



Carson Daly (left) sees his 1998 reflection and thanks his lucky stars he took that late night gig.

evolve to the racy "Dirrty" and heartfelt "Beautiful."

Inevitably, the finale of *TRL* turned into a clip show. We saw their infamously short clips of some of the performances that were deemed most memorable, including Outkast's "Hey Ya," The Killers' "Mr. Brightside," and Shakira's "Hips Don't Lie." And the #1 music video of all *TRL* time? Britney Spears' "Baby One More Time." A wise choice. Of course Britney, who you could call the icon of the *TRL* age in general, did not show up.

No matter how much we say we can't stand it now, we have to admit that *TRL* will forever be a part of our middle school experience. It also is responsible for launching the careers of so many musicians who are now celebrities, like 50 Cent, Britney Spears, and Kid Rock. Where would we be without these morally depraved icons of our pop culture? We owe it all to *TRL*.



# For Queen And Country

## Behind the UK's Calculating Killer

BY C.W. TOMPKINS '09  
ASST. A&E EDITOR

The coveted mantle of 007 is a title every self-respecting male individual is at least familiar with, if not completely obsessed with. Most of us treat our knowledge of the franchise as an elevating quality; we wear our favorite installment on our sleeves like our proudest merit badge and would follow our preferred Bond into nuclear holocaust (for me it's Sean Connery and *From Russia with Love*). Only the best and brightest women know that James Bond is one of the finest ways to a man's heart. If you can tell me who played Max Zorin in *A View to a Kill* or which movie Tina Turner did the theme to I would strongly consider a life of utter servitude. The average male fan takes his Bond seriously, forms aspects of personal philosophy around the slightest plot points, and has his own strange theories regarding the nature of the man behind the Walter PPK 7.65 mm.

With that said it is easy to see how sensitive a new installment and reboot of the entire franchise could potentially become. Consider the circumstances (on the level if not higher) with Barack Obama's rise to power. This is certainly a monumental occasion. We feel excited, but reserved. Could the public consciousness and historic nature of the event possibly overshadow the substance of the administration/narrative? Is he experienced enough in the genre?

By 'he' I do not mean Mr. Daniel Craig. No, we have seen what he can do and trust him with the task. He is more like Colin Powell, and like Powell he has to answer to someone who may or may not be up to the task. Marc Forster (*Monster's Ball*) takes on his first action flick in *Quantum of Solace* after a career of directing sentimental and dramatic gold (I guess the guy wanted a challenge). Now, Bond ideologues would have you believe that Forster, with his diverse background in something other than the chauvinistic and explosive, has destroyed the franchise they once loved.

Just because the man bleeds and feels something does not mean all is

lost. I welcomed the humanity of Bond in lieu of gadgets and snide bull. We saw it in the second half of *Casino Royale* and it was kind of nice, a little melodramatic, but a welcome change. The humanity of 007 in the latest film is different and makes me wonder what I was ever thinking taking stock in Pierce Brosnan's robotic and cold rendition. I don't think the man bled or showed emotion in his seven years at the helm.

*Solace* brings us immediately into an angry and vengeful creature that doesn't fit the profile. Forster throws us into a car chase that illustrates an inner turmoil. Craig follows every lead presented with brutal certainty; from Mr. White to Slate to Dominic Greene (a Technicolor spectrum of evildoers).

Former *Bourne Supremacy* editor Richard Pearsons captures his lack of interest in his personal physical wellbeing nicely; throwing Craig's uncovered head into brick walls and catching every crunch and drop of

blood in close combat. I was originally put off by this fact, thinking that it would appear to be an imitation, but the savage fight scenes are still perfect in the context, perfect for different reasons than in *Casino Royale*. He was a thug in that movie because he was inexperienced and in this film he is a thug because he's just plain mad. Revenge is an excellent vehicle for a lot of the animalistic action in *Solace* and Craig plays it perfectly with his hooligan like demeanor. Bond takes beatings inside and out.

In his search for Vesper's killers, Bond uncovers an enormous secret organization with plans to overthrow a South American government. He is disavowed during the course of almost the

school. Ukrainian model Olga Kurylenko lends her splendor to the *mise en scene* as a Bolivian beauty out for similar revenge, and Gemma Arterton enters as an agency stooge and Vesper look-alike who finds herself victim to one of Bond's only moments of humor and lust. However, she is dealt with in Jill Masterson-esque fashion by the Quantum organization.

Mathieu Amalric (*Munich*) is our perennial villain with visions of world domination. I appreciated how Forster didn't apply any of the standard motifs of a Bond bad guy to his Dominic Greene. There are no fangs or limps, he's not an albino, just a small man with crazy eyes. Actually, besides Craig, there is really not a man in the movie that boasts physical prowess. Everyone sort of cowers to his seeming superiority, much like we would to the Thing. I think this is an effort to single out Bond, really make us see that he is utterly alone at certain points. But it is amazing how loyal he remains to country. At one point M. asks Bond to come back, to which he replies, "I never left."

There are many traces of the Batman reboot apparent in the latest incarnation of James Bond. They are stripped-down films focusing on character rather than things that have worked in past generations, like a visually stimulating scene and a focus on the deeds of the title character rather than an inner life. Dialogue and acting become very important in this regard. I am not saying that action takes a back seat. I was actually physically tired after watching *Solace*. I am just saying that we have to appreciate a newfound depth in character and a new 21st century concept of good and evil. Too bad *Quantum of Solace* couldn't squeeze the Joker into the mix.

I hope you don't have your head in 1962 and can still thoroughly appreciate this film's intensity and depth. It is completely worth it to the clear-minded.

GRADE: B+



## Silver Age Showdown

Naheul Fanjul '10 Stands in the Cross Fire of Video Game Giants

BY NAEHUL FANJUL '11  
A&E STAFF

Let me propose these questions to you: Have you ever wondered what would happen if Cory Matthews ever met Zach Morris? What if James Bond went up against Inspector Gadget?

What would be the outcome if Elvis had a sing off with the great Renaldo Lapuz? And finally, what would a full battle of Mortal Kombat creatures against some DC Universe characters be like? Finally, all you nerds can have your answer to one of these great life mysteries.

Midway released this great mix-up on Nov. 16, and it has been anticipated since last April. The line-up of characters ranges from Sub-Zero to Superman, from Raiden to Captain Marvel, from

Scorpion to The Flash, and also includes other greats like The Joker, Deathstroke, Kano, Baraka, and of course, Batman. Yes, I know that actually recognizing who Baraka is, or where Deathstroke is from is very unlikely (unless you sit in your mom's basement playing W.O.W. at age 39, while your *Star Trek* season 15 DVD is playing for background music), but still, these characters are Mortal Kombat and DC legends. Also, yes, you can predict that my life might end up like the one I just mocked, but I'm ok with the fact that I know these people.

Having played almost two straight days of this game with my friends (and yes, I know who Raiden and Darkseid are, and I still have friends), the game seems all too familiar. The game play still strongly resembles that of the first Mortal Kombat, which is over fifteen years old, but only to be complimented with some new additions. Of course, the graphics are better, and this time the game is out for Playstation and Xbox and not Nintendo, but the One v. One Mode is like all the others. Another thing still in the game is the Arcade Mode, which gives you a tower of opponents and you have to beat them all and reach the top—sounds pretty simple, but now

the fighters get harder as you get to the top, making the last couple almost impossible to beat.

Finally, an incredible new addition: the Story Mode. This includes a well-written story, in which you can choose to follow the dark characters from Mortal Kombat or go with the superheroes of DC Comics. It was somewhat too short for my liking, but I have few complaints other than that. There are well-done cut-scenes and movies between one-on-one combat to keep to story flowing. Not to ruin the game for anyone, but when you beat the story mode you get secret characters (no big surprise there). You get two different new characters depending on which side you chose to fight for.

Of course, the best part of the Mortal Kombat series was when you heard that deadly word, "Fatality," and you had to remember the buttons to be able to burn someone alive or shatter their frozen body. Well this game is no disappointment on that level, other than the "Teen" rating that doesn't allow too much gore (which is the best part!!!). The word around the net says that DC did not want to be associated with too much violence, so they did not want to go to the "Mature" rating (but that's all just talk on random blogs). One way that DC stopped their

characters from being too violent was to call their final moves "Heroic Brutality" instead of "Fatalities." Still you can expect the vintage Lui Kang finish with an arcade falling from the sky and the Scorpion fire-breathing, but the DC men (and also women) pack a nice punch when they decide to let out some anger at the end of fights.

All in all, the game comes out on a good note with many options to venture into. There is a sense that the game might get overplayed, and even get boring in the next two weeks, but it still has a strong chance that it could become the new Super Smash Brothers for your dorm floor.

GRADE: B-



WARNER BROS.



Annmarie Granstrand '09  
A&E Editor



Blue Grotto  
210 Atwells Avenue  
401) 272-9030

This November, there is so much for which I am thankful. Beyoncé has released the most intellectually stimulating, empowering social commentary ballad on the double standard of gender while still including the words: "drink beer with the guys." Barack Obama is going to be our next president. The library no longer sounds like the neighborhood surrounding the 1870s construction of the Brooklyn Bridge. For goodness' sake, last *SNL* had Justin Timberlake dancing in heels and a sleeveless black leotard.

Ready to break bread and give thanks for the uncountable blessing in our lives, a couple of my friends and I traveled to Federal Hill for a practice run of Thanksgiving. Although we collectively realized this version would lack some integral traditions. These traditions require our repeated use of the statements: "Uh, maybe graduate school?" "Yes, senior year does fly by," and the old standby, "Nope, I don't have a boyfriend." Somehow we trudged on.

After a few setbacks involving dead car batteries and lost ATM cards, we arrived at Atwells Avenue in front of the Blue Grotto. Promptly greeted and seated, we were led past a small bar lined with some younger folks sampling appetizers and wine. Encouraged by their example, we perused the wine list. An option offered was Wine Flight. This was the Grotto's way of bringing tastes of international vineyards to Federal Hill diners. Since I've vacationed a couple summers on the west

coast, my as-good-as Florentine friend had spent her fall semester abroad, and the other enjoyed passing judgment, we ordered "One Way Flight to California" and "Autumn in Italy."

Passing around each small glass, we decided the Umani Ronchi Verdicchio was our favorite of the "Autumn in Italy" flight. My wool-sweatered pal let the 2004 light wine resonate on her palate before carefully placing the glass back on the table sighing in such collegiate fashion, "that wine is definitely not from a box." The Bollini Pinot Grigio possessed an interesting hint of pear but according to the young woman who had sampled more wine in Florence than a Corleone family vacation, it was "a little too tart."

Among the Californian wines, we savored the Hess Suskol Vineyard Chardonnay the most. But after the Cambria-Katherine glass, my friend shrunk back into her Italian pashmina and turned her soured face downward. She proceeded to recall a not-so-fond memory of how in Italy she and her

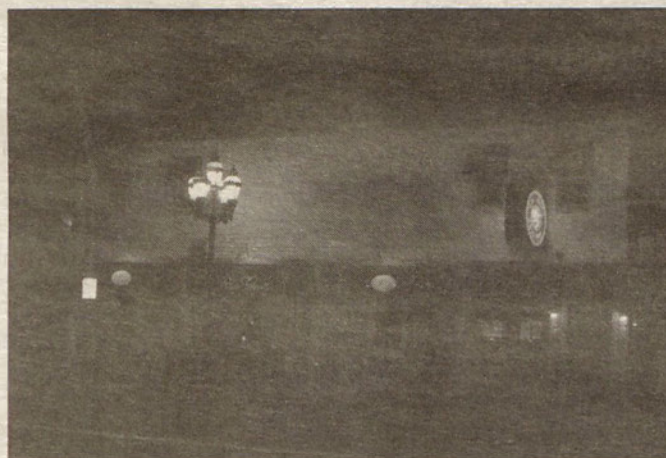
roommate thought they hadn't cleaned the glasses properly because the wine tasted so terrible. "It took us a while before we realized it was a different kind of grape," she explained, "but in my mind that is known as Dirty Sponge Wine." After that very fair statement, we moved on to the appetizer, Calamari Fritti (\$9). This plentiful serving of fried baby squid tossed with rather zesty cherry peppers, basil, and balsamic dressing was quickly consumed.

Our main dishes were accompanied by some steamed squash and what tasted like risotto served family-style. Applauding her efforts to finally stray from her usual bland grilled cheese, we watched our dining companion enjoy Chicken Bruschetta (\$19) complete with basil, fresh mozzarella, cherry tomatoes, and extra virgin olive oil. To my left, my Florentine friend was taken back to the old country just a few bites into her vegetarian lasagna (\$18) packed with breaded eggplant, squash, zucchini, three cheeses, marinara, and pesto sauces. When my super-cultured mates were abroad sampling fine European dining, I was at home. So I ordered the Federal Hill equivalent of my homeland's finest dish: Grade A New Jersey Chicken Parm. And as someone who lives a stone's throw from Tony Soprano's house (every kid in the Garden State carries a permit to make such far-fetched state-

ments), I can say the Blue Grotto's Chicken Parmesean (\$18) is not just up to par. It makes par. It is Jack Nicklaus-in-1966 kind of up to par. If you brought Joe Carter into the Blue Grotto and gave him a bite of my Chicken Parm, I'm 74% sure he wouldn't be able to tell which was better: hitting the game-winning three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth at game six of the 1993 World Series as a Blue Jay or eating from my plate last Monday night.

All three of us were utterly stuffed and decided we wanted to relive the magic tomorrow for lunch. Giancarlo, our fantastically-accented waiter, wrapped up our meals and returned to present us with a tray of lovely desserts from which to choose. When I saw my pal's eyes widen beneath her tactfully-placed bangs at Giancarlo's description of the triple chocolate torte, I quickly requested one to share. With a cup of coffee in one hand and an eager spoon in the other, I suggested we also indulge in the butterscotch crème brûlée. The good friends they are, they complied.

As the number of things we were thankful for mounted, our thoughts of papers to write and exams to study for matched it. Reluctantly, we received the check. Although it was certainly more than a trip to Slavin for a Hungry Pilgrim special, it would be a lie to say it wasn't worth it. I think any hungry Pilgrim would agree with us, even the Native Americans in the Greater Plymouth Rock Area would concur. Regardless of what side of the Thanksgiving table you're placed on, the Blue Grotto is a delicious place to count your lucky stars.



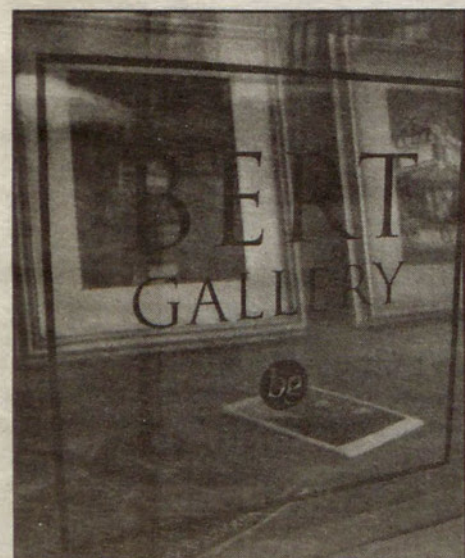
JILLIAN BARKER '09

## Rural Art in the Renaissance City

*The Bert Gallery Showcases Rhode Island Native*

BY NEIL ANDREW FRANCISCO '10  
A&E STAFF

The city of Providence has been known as a cultural landmark for years now. With schools like the Rhode Island School of Design, Brown University, and Providence College, the city has undoubtedly become a center for college students to enjoy the arts. When driving down North Main Street and around the East side of Providence, it is fairly common to see an art gallery. The Bert Gallery is one of the special ones. Catherine Little Bert, the gallery owner, has taken space at Corliss Landing, which is probably familiar to all current PC students as the area where Fish Co. is. Her own personal artwork is not on display; instead she displays the work of Rhode Island artists from the late 19th century to early 20th century. On display now is the work of Edna Lawrence.



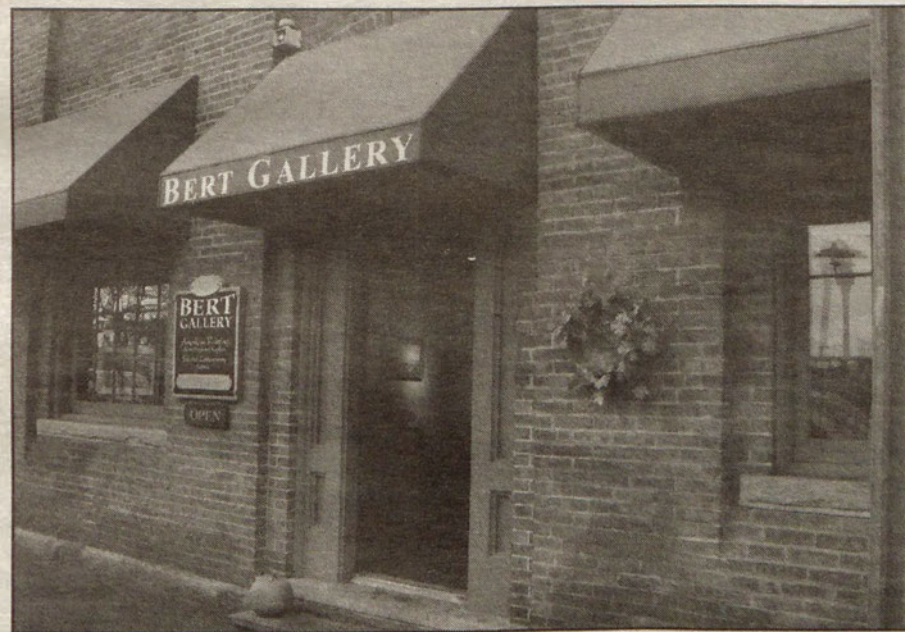
NEIL ANDREW FRANCISCO '10/THE COWL

At the turn of the 19th century, Rhode Island was a very wealthy state, with the highest per capita income in the U.S. in 1903. The wealth produced in the nation's tiniest state provided a sense of responsibility for the greater good, leading to an impressive increase in the promotion of the arts. Art clubs, museums, and historical societies are all prevalent in the city of Providence today. When we think of Providence, we should be thinking of the RISD museum, the First Baptist Church, and the other numerous historical sites. The beauty of Providence is not seen by the naked eye—it is more like a diamond in the rough. The National Register of Historic Places lists 154 landmarks in the city of Providence alone. It is no wonder that Providence is often referred to as "The Renaissance City." The beauty is right there, all one needs to do is look for it.

The Bert Gallery located at 540 South Water St. is a great place to start. The work comes from RISD and The Providence Art Club, both founded in the late 1800s. Both institutions aimed to promote the interest of artists in the city of Providence and Rhode Island as a whole. I think it's safe to say that they have succeeded at doing so.

Edna Lawrence was graduated from RISD in 1920 with a degree in freehand drawing and painting; Lawrence is best known for establishing one of the best art school collections of natural objects in the country. This would serve as a truly unique resource, the cornerstone of the RISD Freshman Foundation Program. Lawrence was a lifetime member of the Providence Art Club and was a recipient of the Art Club Medal, an award given for outstanding service to the community.

Born in Staten Island in 1889, Lawrence was the daughter of British



NEIL ANDREW FRANCISCO '10/THE COWL

The Bert Gallery opened an exhibition of local artist Edna Lawrence's work on Nov. 12.

parents who immigrated to the U.S. Coming from a religious background, she was instilled with the virtues of fortitude, piety, and simplicity. These would come out in her work, for as simple as her watercolors are, they still are quite beautiful. This may come as a surprise to many, considering a woman born in New York in the late 19th century ought to have come out with a more modernist approach to art, but Lawrence stuck to her roots.

The gallery is displaying 20 of Lawrence's watercolors and drawings from the 1940s, and some of her works come from her 10,000-mile cruise around the Baltic in 1936. Throughout her life, she displayed her work at the numerous art clubs in Providence, especially at the Providence Art Club and the Providence Water Color Club. She was a tenured professor at the

Rhode Island School of Design, where she taught hundreds of art students, many whom she influenced heavily. Some of their art is on display at the Bert Gallery as well.

This is a great opportunity to take a load off work and enjoy some beauty. Lawrence's artwork is so elegant and simple that it makes you wonder if complexity always means more beauty. Sometimes the simplest works of art can be just as beautiful as the complex.

The 1000-square-foot gallery is open Tuesday to Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m. and Saturday from 12:00 to 4:00p.m. Every third Thursday of the month, the city hosts a Gallery Night where it is open to anyone looking to have a good time and enjoy the sight of Rhode Island art. For more information, call (401) 751-2628 or visit [www.bertgallery.com](http://www.bertgallery.com).



# If These Reasons Are Wrong, I Don't Want to Be Right

Stadolnik '10 Unearths Hidden Problems and Discovers Local Rock for Our Generation

BY CHRIS STADOLNIK '10  
A&E STAFF

The air is hot and heavy. Something that you can't quite explain brought you here. The crowd is dense and stares back at you from behind 50 pairs of horn-rimmed glasses. Still, you feel that you need to be here. You belong here. It's dark enough that you manage to safely slip through the mass. Then the band members start to ascend the low stage at the far end of the gallery, and unassumingly take up their instruments. They look ordinary enough; clad in western shirts, Levis, and well-worn cowboy boots. Maybe you were wrong. You begin to think to yourself how much money you just wasted on tickets, drinks, parking and-- then it happens.

That first chord explodes in the air. The amplifiers erupt. The lead singer begins to twist like a demon dancing on red-hot coals. He sounds like he's been burning one cigarette off the other for the past decade. He plays like his soul is on fire. The band chases their leader closely in time, melodically fanning the raging flames. That something inside you that coaxed you here is now white hot. You are totally consumed.

This was Wrong Reasons, the most promising local indie band in years. Their sound can only be described as

pleasurably menacing -- something of the most gratifying fusion of rockabilly, C&W, roots music, and urban grit. Joseph Fletcher, the lead singer and songwriter, is a veteran of the Providence music scene, having played in several bands before forming Wrong Reasons in early 2005. The band has gone through several incarnations, expanding and contracting with the changing times. But the lineup as it presently stands is Joseph Fletcher (guitar, vocals), Damien Puerini (bass guitar), and Greg Burgess (guitar). And those cowboys put on one hell of a show.



WRONG REASONS RECORDS

Wrong Reasons has been toiling in the local music scene for years, but their time in the trenches is beginning to pay off. They have concluded their second national tour and are currently playing shows all over New England. They still frequently play the local Providence clubs, AS220 and Jake's Bar & Grill. You can get a ticket for a Wrong Reasons show for around \$8, which is money well spent. But make sure you have \$10 set aside for the CD.

*Bury Your Problems*, Wrong Reasons' debut album, is a collection of the best of Fletcher's songwriting. There are some dark sketches like "Piggy Bank" that's first line--"Pick up your piggy bank and I'll pick up my piggy bank,

Cock your arm way far back and let that sucker go. . . You got shot and I got shot but eventually the pain will stop. We'll spend our lives forgetting all we know"--takes you to a strange dark place where the shadows fall. And there are other more abstract pieces like "A Better Place," in which Fletcher finds himself in a series of weird and wonderful encounters with Mississippi Fred MacDowell, Jack Daniels, and Abraham Lincoln. All of the variously styled tracks together compose a wonderfully eclectic album.

He describes his songs as "not too up-to-date, but not too archaic either." Fletcher is hung up on the historical. His songs are often set against backdrops of the past. He explains that this motif is "a thing of dealing with feeling like you were maybe born at the wrong time." But regardless of the time Fletcher feels himself best suited for, we may all be thankful he was thrust into ours.

The only claim against *Bury Your Problems* that can rightly be made is that it is not Wrong Reasons live. The



Local phenom Wrong Reasons burns strong and fast on their new album *Bury Your Problems*.

MYSAPCE

disc does not completely capture the raw energy of their live show. The stage act is startlingly simple in an age of rock when elaborate costume and props are par for the course. But regardless of the stripped down set up, Wrong Reasons is truly a sight to behold.

*Bury Your Problems* is available on CD Baby for \$9.99 plus shipping and handling. Wrong Reasons will be performing live at Jake's Bar & Grille Saturday, Dec. 6, with nationally-renowned delta blues-man Samuel James and Portland Maine's Downbird. So if you are in the market for some country music with a rock-and-roll swagger, check out Wrong Reasons.

## Culinary Corner: A New Twist On Old Holiday Favorites

It's Time to Give Thanks and Give in to Thanksgiving Treats

BY CLAIRE PEVOTO '10  
A&E STAFF

Tradition plays a pretty large role on Thanksgiving. We usually celebrate with the same people, eat the same food, and try to ignore the same premature Christmas advertisements in an effort to observe the holidays in their proper sequence (a difficult task when even the pumpkin treats in Jazzman's have been replaced by minty yuletide beverages--is there no relief?) But on this day devoted to the joy of stuffing oneself, why not try a new twist on a Thanksgiving favorite? Maybe you'll discover a new tradition, because really, passing out into a tryptophan-induced coma can only be exciting for so many years.



**Orange Cranberry Sauce**  
Thanks to the prevalence of canned jelly logs in our Thanksgiving dinners, it's often forgotten that cranberry sauce is in fact made from actual fruit. Impress your gastronomical gathering with this homemade version.

- 4 cups cranberries
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1-2 tsp cinnamon, to taste
- 1/4 tsp cloves

Cornstarch for thickening, if needed

Heat sugar and water until boiling. Add cranberries and return to a boil.

Reduce heat to simmer for 10 minutes. Stir in orange juice and cinnamon. If needed, add in cornstarch a little at a time, while continuously stirring, until sauce is at desired consistency. Let cool before serving.



### Pumpkin-Squash Bake

Squash is often passed up for its popular friend, pumpkin. Surprise guests with this savory bake that puts both fall fruits to use.

- 1 pumpkin
- 1 squash
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 2 1/2 tsp sage
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1 ready-to-go pie crust (either frozen or homemade)
- 1 egg white
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder

Peel the pumpkin and cut into quarters. De-seed each quarter and chop into bite-size chunks. Do the same for

the squash. Mix chunks of squash and pumpkin in a large bowl.

In a skillet, heat minced garlic in the olive oil over low to medium heat until aromas start to release. Remove from heat, and pour oil and garlic over squash in the bowl. Toss to coat evenly. Add 1 1/2 tsp sage and toss again.

In a small bowl, whisk the egg white with the garlic powder and the remaining 1 tsp of sage. Brush egg white mixture over the bottom of the pie crust. Pour in squash mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes, until squash is tender. Tip: Halfway through baking, cover the edges of the pie crust with foil to prevent burning.



### Apple-Pear Crisp

It might not be as American as apple pie, but "change" is the buzzword this side of the Atlantic anyway.

- 4 apples
- 4 pears
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1 cup honey
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tbsp cinnamon

- 1 tsp cloves
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1 3/4 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup flour
- 1 stick butter
- 1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats

Peel and slice apples and pears. Mix together apples, pears, cornstarch, honey, sugar, cinnamon, cloves, and orange juice. Pour into greased baking dish.

Mix together flour, oats, and brown sugar. Divide butter into 1-inch chunks and cut into mixture using either a fork or a pastry blender. The end result should look like coarse crumbs; it's okay if it's not blended perfectly. Pour mixture over apples and pears in the baking dish. Make sure it is spread evenly over the entire dish.

Bake for 25-30 minutes at 350 degrees. Serve with ice cream and offer thanks!





## You Mean Gladiator Wasn't Real?

BY LINDSAY WENGLOSKI '10  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

So I've given it a lot of thought, and I've decided that there's something missing from America. It's something that shouldn't be lacking, a void that needs to be filled, a gaping cultural chasm. It's got tons of potential!

ESSAY

We need gladiators.

Yes, I'm fine admitting it—*American Gladiators* was dumb. I say "was" because I'm not sure if it's still airing. I hope it isn't. I hope it's rotting somewhere in some 40-year-old's basement on a single flimsy DVD that, once destroyed, will purge the world of a great and pointless evil. And if I'm wrong and it is still on the air, someone should cancel it. . .soon. It would be an act of incredible compassion, cancelling that show. I bet people would love you even more than Saint Bono! But I digress. Slightly.

*American Gladiators* was, without a doubt, the byproduct of crappy MTV reality reruns and baseball's BALCO steroids scandal. If *American Gladiators* were a person, it must have been dropped on its noggin as a wee tyke. Several times, probably, or at least jostled around for a bit.

So what am I getting at? Why do I hate this one television show with a passion that I generally reserve for preteens ordering in front of me at Starbucks, lap dogs, and Rachael Ray? *American Gladiators* consists of frighteningly muscular people attacking each other. There is one very serious problem with all of this: they have safety precautions.

I say get rid of the padding. Get rid of the EMTs waiting nervously just off-camera. Get rid of the waivers. Wait,

no. Keep the waivers. But get rid of the blunted weapons and the protective helmets and the wrestling-ring lights. I have a better idea.

We need a big place where we all can yell and scream obscenities and throw plastic bits of shrapnel at the contenders. Oh wait, we already have Fenway Park. Seeing how we can't really expect the Boston Red Sox to play baseball if Fenway's been turned into a coliseum, I guess we'll have to build it from scratch. I don't care what state it's in, we can figure that out later. But I want a coliseum. Sand pit floor, lots of open-air seating—the works!

Oh, and we need gladiators. Problem, you say? I disagree.

(1) Our prisons are jam-packed as it is. Let's make it optional for people with prison terms to battle their way to freedom. And by battle, I mean carve chunks out of other people with sharp pointy metal objects. I think this'll do a ton for our remediation policies, and it might even discourage crime. Would you want to commit a crime if there's a chance you'll wind up in some arena fighting a man named Machine Gun Joe who has a mace with your name on it? I doubt it.

(2) Russell Crowe. He'll just dominate, pure and simple. And plus, I'm sure he'll attract plenty of female fans to the tournaments.

(3) If we cancel *American Gladiators*, dredge up the cast of *Jackass*, and post a couple of amateur YouTube videos about gladiators, I'm sure we could summon large masses of mindless people willing to run around in armor trying to avoid being maimed. And if that doesn't work, there's a nearly endless supply of disgruntled *American Idol* contenders that I'm positive would love to fight lions and stuff—especial-

ly if said lions are named Simon, Paula, and Randy. Plus, if *The Hills* ever gets boring, or those people who aren't part of their viewership cult collectively grow a pair and decide to revolt against 'reality' TV, we can feed the entire cast to the lions! Fun!!!

Pipe down over there. "There's morality to consider!" you shriek. Dear sweet Baby Jesus! What will all those innocent, impressionable children think? What will the elderly think? What will the world think? Oh please. Having gladiator matches—real, live, gladiators—would be the best thing for everyone. First off, old people secretly love watching cage matches. Gladiators would merely bring their hobbies out into mainstream society.

And second, having gladiators teaches everyone *reality*. If you get poked in the leg with a sharp pointy

sword, you can't jump off a building, do a ninja-flip into a helicopter, and simultaneously cure cancer. Bad things happen, like getting mauled by angry arena-bears or getting a thumbs-down. Gladiators would teach everyone the value of a job well done (Yay! You got to the other gladiator before he could get you!), social accountability (see thumbs-up, thumbs-down decision), and realism about violence (It's bad. Very bad. It hurts. A lot. But it's so much fun to watch!)

If all those reasons didn't convince you, here's my third and final reason why we should endorse the formation of an American Gladiators' League (heck, we can form a National League, too, for all five of you Mets fans out there). My third and final reason? HAVE YOU SEEN WHAT'S ON TV RECENTLY?



www.uky.edu/AS/Classics

## Gluten-Free

BY BOBBY BRETZ '12  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

A hundred years or so from now  
I'll be so full of glee,  
'Cause I'll have lived a hundred years  
Because I'm gluten-free.

I ambled into Ray today  
And, oh, what did I see?  
A healthy feast of banal fare,  
And 'twas all gluten-free.

It's quite the thing for Stoic tongues,  
But you may live to be  
A hundred years or more, in fact,  
If you stay gluten-free.

Such wondrous food from East to West,  
Thailand to Italy,  
And all the happy kids declare  
"Thank God for gluten-free!"

A hundred years or so from now  
I imagine they'll find me,  
The rope quite taut, the chair kicked out,  
Because I'm gluten-free.

## Tangles and Stories in Silver and Hair

BY KALY THAYER '10  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

People tell me I should cut my hair. It would be easier, I know. Shorter hair takes less time to deal with in the morning, uses less shampoo and conditioner, and so saves money in the long run. It wouldn't get in my eyes so much, it wouldn't blow around and require me to carry a hair tie everywhere I go. It wouldn't tangle after an hour at the gym or get caught in my boyfriend's stubble after we kiss. It wouldn't require straightening or curling or dyeing or trimming or anything else.

All reasoning says that I should do it. Just take a walk down to any random stylist and have it chopped off. Or maybe on some random day when I'm feeling adventurous and hanging out with my girlfriends and have nothing better to do I'll just take some scissors to it.

But I can't. It's kind of strange, but I can't. I look at the ends of my hair, all split and curled at odd angles, and I think, "You've been to Spain," or "You remember my first drink, my first kiss, my first car."

I've argued about you with my mother, my friends, my first love. I've gotten you caught in tree branches in Alaska, and you've been pulled by my first nephew. There was spaghetti sauce in you when that same nephew

decided a food fight was more fun than lunchtime.

Length and style are less important when there's a story to tell. When it blows into my face it's not just strands of protein attached to my scalp: It's the time I got sunburned so badly at the beach that it stung my skin when it hung down my back. It's seen every year of my life for a good long while, and cutting it doesn't seem to be anything more than minor consideration.

It would be like removing the ring on my left hand. It's Mexican silver, a gift from my mom when I was 12; it has a cool little design on it and it spins around, band within band. It's not a promise ring, just a ring. But it's seen the time I wrapped that hand around the handlebar of my first motorcycle. It was there when I gave it to my love when he went off to war, and I put it on a chain around his neck, and it came back to me in the mail with a triangle folded flag. It was there when I almost cut my hair off the first time.

But I'm getting carried away. When I look at that ring, fiddle with it, I'm not handling a ring. I'm handling stories, story upon story upon joke upon tears and laughs and screams and sarcastic foxy little grins.

It would be like trying to cut off my finger, or erase my memories.

But none of my friends tell me to get rid of my ring. They tell me to cut my hair. What they don't know is that, to me, it's almost the same thing.



# 2012: Mayan Prediction of Doom

BY KATIE CALIVA '10  
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

**Author's Note:** The Mayan Calendar is a system of distinct cycles and almanacs, which come together in synchronized and interlocked combinations. The calendar was used by the pre-Columbian, Mesoamerican Maya civilization to count days, mark historical events, and also as a divination tool. One cycle, known modernly as the 'Long Count,' begins from a mythological starting point and can be extended far into the past or future. It is asserted by some that the Calendar of the Mayans accurately predicted such events as earthquakes and Cortes' decimation of the Aztecs. Still others maintain that the 'Long Count' ends on December 31, 2012 CE, and that according to the religious lore of the civilization, the end of the calendar marks the day that the earth will turn on its axis and perish in flame.

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[A man and a woman sit at a small table in a café. His hair, which falls below his shoulders, is kept out of his eyes by a pair of aviator sunglasses on his head. Besides this, he is rather unremarkable: middle-aged, average height and build, medium coloring, and a perfectly respectable outfit. His companion, however, is eccentric as all hell. Wild hair and wild eyes, a flowing garment that is patched and sequined, and long strings of beads that get tangled up in her ratty pashmina. They converse loudly and continue to do so despite the annoyed glances and sometimes curt comments that come from their fellow patrons. Their topic is mostly of things occult, a specialty of the woman. He speaks little, mostly contributing nods and affirmations to her stream of talk.]

**Woman:** Have you ever heard of the Mayan Calendar? . . . Some kid asked me that the other day. He said I looked like I would know. . . . Well of course, I do know, but that's not really the point. And so I told this kid that in fact I have heard about the Mayan Calendar and in fact I'd written a whole damn pamphlet on it, and if he would only run with 'he right crowd he just might get a copy of it. . . . He didn't really like that response of course, and told me again that he'd figured that I knew something about the thing. And so then—before I can point out again that I'm

damn near an expert on the topic—he goes on to ask, and here's the gall of the thing, he asks if I believe in it. . . . Well yes, of course I told him that you couldn't study the thing and not believe in it because the Mayan Calendar has never been wrong. Not once. So then the kid asks me if I'd heard that the according to the Mayan Calendar the world is going to end in 2012. Obviously I had heard that Long Count would end in 2012, and I told him so. Do you know what



else I told him? . . . I said to him, 'Kid, not only does the calendar say that the world is going to end in 2012 but the Mayan Calendar has also never been wrong.' And the look on his face was priceless. . . . Well yes, I know that, but he did ask. And the look on his face was priceless because he apparently hadn't heard that the Mayan Calendar was never wrong. But it hasn't ever been wrong, you know. And so I told this kid that and do you know what he said? . . . He said that he hopes that I'm right about it being right because then he won't have to pay off his student loans! You know, everyone keeps talking about how important the next four years are. They keep saying it over and over again but they're talking about silly things: the economy, the war, politics. The next four years, why they're more important than anybody even realizes because according to the Mayan Calendar, they're the last four years of the world. . . . We do need to make them count because the Mayan Calendar has never been wrong. I swear, not once has it ever been wrong.



If you're studying abroad this spring, PC wants to hear about it!

Email [cowl.portfolio@gmail.com](mailto:cowl.portfolio@gmail.com) for more information.

## On the Source of Free Will [In Less Than 430 Words]

BY ALEX BETGEORGE '11  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

No one:

not Socrates	[The unofficial
Plato	trinity of god-man
Aristotle	philosophers]
not Confucius	
Kant	
Christ, even	[Official Member
	of the Trinity],

has yet come up with  
a philosophy of universal consensus.  
And so,  
making no overly presumptuous attempt,  
I endeavor only to add myself  
to this great list of failures.  
I neither have the time

nor patience  
to present a complete philosophy.  
Hence: some scant ponderings  
on the Origin of Free Will.

I) And where to begin,  
but with a definition?

A) Bank of Whims:  
the place in your head  
from which thoughts arise  
for no explicable reason.

1) Example: 11 p.m., any given Friday:  
Making your merry way  
down Eaton Street dressed in appropriate  
jungle themed attire  
(for some celebratory end-of-Hell-Week bash),  
you suddenly catch yourself debating  
whether it's worthwhile to buy Shaw's brand  
macaroni & cheese over Kraft for  
financial desperation's sake.

Non-sequitur, much?

2) Given: Said Bank of Whims  
is intrinsic to every human being.

3) Not Given: source of this  
Bank of Whims (though possible ones include):

a) Evolution  
b) Divine gift  
c) Divinely guided evolution  
4) Verdict: (a-c) are immaterial  
as the Bank's existence is  
undeniable regardless of its source.

B) The Bank's Function

1) We cannot withdraw our whims at will.  
Rather, they come (or don't) in accordance with  
chance. These sporadic materializations  
fuel many of our actions in such a way that we are  
forced to be free, because we cannot control which arise  
and which do not.

a) Whether we elect to enact these whims is  
ultimately our preference.

b) If we don't adhere to any, alas:  
we've become some Matrix drones.

c) If we adhere to all of them,  
we cast ourselves as pawns of some god,  
depending on your personal conviction,  
not that it matters (I refer you again to IA3b and IA4, respectively).

II) Enter Reason:  
the source of the standards by which  
we choose to (or not) to act upon  
our whims.

A) Reason's tenets  
—for the sake of this argument—  
are intrinsically defined as universal, irrefutable.

1) Example: Never, under any circumstances  
would Mr. Desperate Hopeful order  
'THE GARLIC SPECIAL!' on a dinner date.  
His reason would discard such a whim with disdain!  
And he would order pizza, barbecue chicken, or chocolate cake  
(for his companion of course, and thus, extra bonus points).

2) And so, when applied to particular whims over others,  
the laws of reason should modify our wilder ones  
to yield a species of dignified individuals  
with free will.



# Catastrophe's Impact (Part 5)

BY CONOR LEARY '11  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Charlie shoved Sylvia out of the danger, but she hurled herself into his chest, almost as if to throw him off-balance and into the center of the road.

The hysteria screamed in his mind as people broke away from their stupefied glares, running in any direction they could to find a shred of hope. But there was none as Charlie swallowed his better sense and turned his attention to the space rock devouring an unpredictable path toward the city.

It burned his eyes and flooded them with tears as he watched catastrophe creeping closer and closer. It meant obliteration to his life and the life of the woman he clutched so intimately now as she heaved her steps towards the asteroid.

"We have to find shelter!"

He wanted the minutes he had left. He wanted to stare into her eyes and memorize every last feature of the woman that had stumbled into his life during the desperate situation. She made him feel whole, but now as she buried her watering eyes into his shoulder, he felt his heart being torn in

two different directions, all towards the same outcome.

"There is no shelter, Charlie! I must do something!" She pulled from him and he lost her from his embrace. He lunged forward and grabbed her wrist, a scream echoing at his back as people scurried for safety. It was too painful of a sight to glance up into the sky but he needed Sylvia to look at him and jerked her gaze back towards his. Her eyes were dry as her wrist trembled inside his grasp.

"What are you going to do? You can't stop that asteroid from wiping out this city. It's going to happen! I've seen it!" He barked madly as her slender posture allowed his eyes to just see the searing rock. It glowed with a sinister glare and shot like a bullet from the gray sky.

"I know you've seen it! But I might be able to stop it!" Sylvia couldn't control her voice as it trembled in her throat, her eyes slicing away from Charlie's form. She stole her wrist away and was free for another moment that allowed her bare feet to take two more steps. She had lost her shoes in the mayhem that had erupted when she had thrown herself desperately into the protective arms of the man she would die beside. The egotis-

tical talk show host no longer nauseated her. He had admitted to some prophetic ability and she could think only of the moment before she found out her world would be over. She remembered the unbelievable experience of watching the steaming tea kettle float from its place under her command, the steam wavering at her will. When Charlie grabbed her again, she felt her eyes blurring, affected by the momentary glance she gave the impending bullet of sweltering stone. She turned and tore her hand from his grasp. She listened to the brief silence she experienced as a weight pressed heavily on her temples. Her hand sprung forward and her finger tensed as power zipped through her nerves. She was staring at Charlie and watched him fly into a car's sealed door. Once he'd gotten over the shock, he pulled his back against the car he had dented. He seemed totally numb to his pain.

"How did you do that?" he challenged slowly. His eyes were frozen on her and away from the pending doom at her back. She felt her lips go dry as her throat rasped. Her emotions were weighing on her next move. She knew nothing of what her ability could do and she hoped that it would do some-

thing about the falling asteroid.

"I don't know!" she shouted and turned her back on him. The asteroid traveled quickly, dashing out the volume of any screams or shouts from onlookers. People were racing in desperation to the empty store or down into the subway to hide from the world's destruction. Sylvia knew that she could simply close her eyes and let herself be taken that way, quick, succinct. She looked at her empty hand and hated how her fingers shook. Her hand could not match the humongous asteroid hurtling towards her.

"Sylvia!"

She heard Charlie shout. She looked back at him and saw an odd reflection in his stare. They expressed his anxiety, his sorrow as he watched a woman he hardly knew stand foolishly up against Armageddon. She felt her heart falter and tears swell in her eyes. She gave the softest whisper to him. She knew he might not be able to hear her but she turned her eyes and faced the moment of catastrophe with her hands raised.

"I must try. . ."

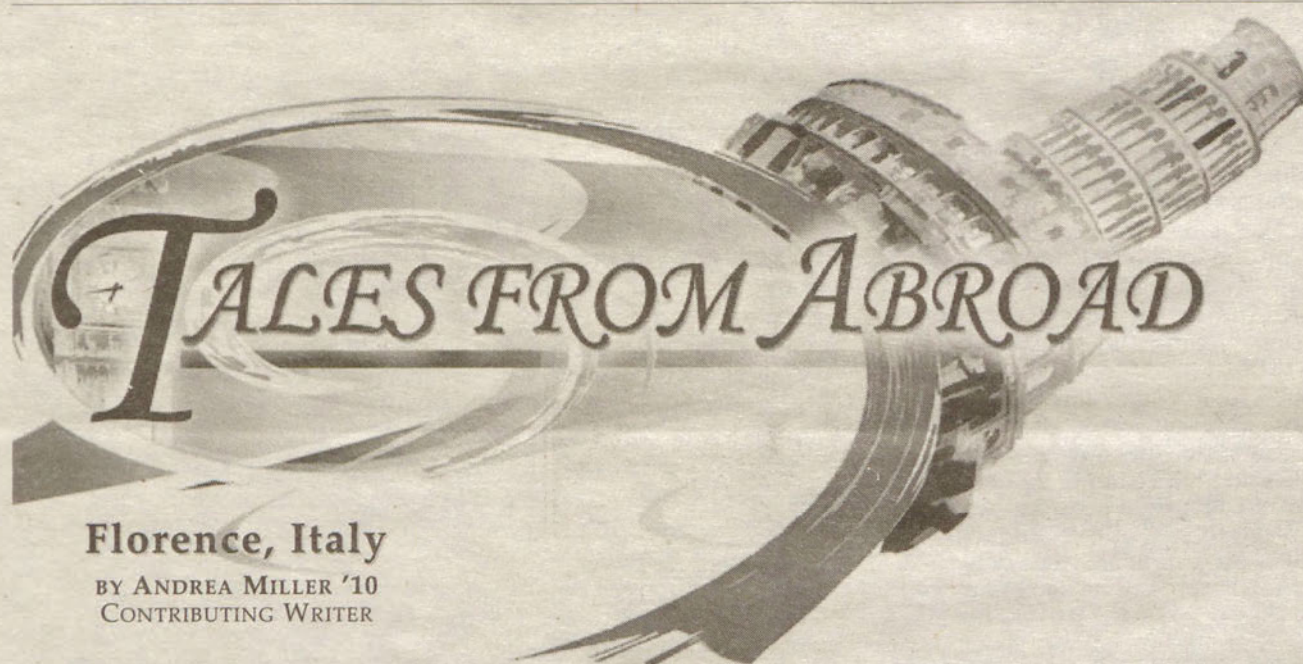
It was unexplainable. Charlie sprung up so fast; he almost missed the inconceivable moment where he watched Sylvia stand alone, face to face with the asteroid. Time seemed to slow as the space rock descended from the sky at the fastest velocity. It should have zoomed down from the heavens and obliterated his sight before demolishing the immediate area and spreading quakes throughout the earth. He wanted to race forward and embrace Sylvia but the déjà vu of his last vision had already grounded her. Her hand was raised, a feeble shield against the asteroid. She was being stupid. He had to make her understand there was no hope. But she had thrown him against a car without even touching him. All it took was a sweep of her hand, any delicate touch brushing against his skin absent. She was dedicated to some irrational thought inside her head that she could do something to stop the destruction.

"Sylvia!"

He shouted but his voice hardly lingered. His ears rang as the asteroid shattered the television screen hanging over Times Square, blocking out any light of the sky. Sylvia lurched forward and her hands reached up towards the sky. Charlie's breath caught in his lungs and in the time he was unable to breathe, he watched Sylvia's contest. The asteroid slowed and dragged to an abrupt halt, the massive space rock hovering over her hands, inches from her face. Her fingers tensed but the rest of her body was trembling, her bare feet pressing into the concrete as the asteroid's force battled against her. Her neck fought to remain standing as her knees were forced down, her ankles bending to remain strong. When Charlie breathed next, Sylvia stomped forward with a cry. He leapt out to her as she fainted and caught her body. He felt her dead weight as all energy seeped out of her, her limbs hardly mustering a tremor.

He looked up without thinking. Sylvia had rejected the asteroid and it now zoomed back through the hole it carved in the gray sky, deteriorating as it returned through the earth's atmosphere and back into space. He could not even attempt to fathom what had happened. He looked down at her face and found the features sleeping. Her mouth was a thin line poisoned by her sacrifice. Her immense ability had absorbed her energy and left little to help her breathe, to help her live.

Charlie felt a warm tear tumble down his cheek as he hung his shadow over her, pulling a dark shawl over the dormant face of his hero. He could hear people crawling out from their stupors to discover the impossible had been achieved; the impact of the catastrophe had been defeated. He heaved the world's heroine into his arms and held her, waiting for another miracle to bring her back.



## 14 September 2008: Off to Fiesole

Today I went to Fiesole on a day trip. In order to get to Fiesole we had to do some "extreme bus riding."

Italian city buses are pretty much standing room only, incredibly narrow and very crowded. Add narrow streets, fast driving and sharp turns, and you have yourself quite a ride.

We met some Australian ladies "on holiday" who were staying in a villa there. They were taking the city bus back up from Florence. Honestly, it was nice to speak some English with a stranger.

When we got there we climbed up some super steep streets to get to a view of Florence. It was really pretty. Pictures didn't really do it justice because it was hazy out and the heat was setting in. Right now it is unseasonably hot (the Florentines are complaining more about it than we are). It was around noon and not too bad yet. In fact, it didn't start to hit me until we got to the Etruscan ruins, and once there I was much more interested in what the professor had to say than I was concerned about the heat. Having taken five years of Latin in high school, I find Roman history to be very interesting.

While we were there, some girlfriends and I took some "goddess pictures" and walked around marveling that we could just walk and climb all over these ruins. We went up and down the stairs of the amphitheater, posed under the arches of the baths,

and jumped from ruined foundation to ruined foundation in the temple. It was really neat.

Afterwards it was back to "extreme bus riding," this time with a pretty full stomach. It was hot and even more aggressive than the drive up. To make matters worse, an Italiano, clearly tripping on some kind of drug, got on the



ANDREA MILLER / The Cowl

bus and began to poorly singing single lines of popular songs. We were graced with a rendition of "Yellow Submarine" that consisted of those two words repeated over and over. Then he followed it up with an eclectic mix of "California Dreaming" and "Californication," which was a real treat. Despite feeling like I was going to yak all over the place, it was funny.

As if the "extremeness" wasn't enough already, the bus driver then stopped at our stop but didn't open the

doors. Okay, weird, but no big deal. We decided we would get off at the next one. Nope. He stopped, opened them halfway and then shut them back again. Two more times he duped us until he let us off at the Duomo.

My friends and I decided earlier in the day that we wanted to go to the leather market in San Lorenzo Piazza. So despite feeling dehydrated, nauseous, and cranky, we followed through with our plan. We made our way through cheap (in make and price) clothing stores on our way to the market. Lesson learned: Not everything in Florence is made with the usual Italian finesse.

As we were looking at leather wristlets and change purses we heard thunder and felt some sprinkles but we doubted we'd need to rush for cover. Boy were we wrong. Not only did it get harder—like shower head hard—it started hailing. Being from upstate New York, this wasn't a new thing for me, but for my companion from California it was a new experience.

While walking the ten minutes back to our apartments we stopped under in a building to rest. Looking down I saw my white skirt was plastered against my thighs. I might as well have jumped in a pool. After five minutes or so we continued and I finally got back to my apartment. I walked through the door to my roommate's friends.

"I don't want to talk about it," I said, laughing, in response to their looks.



# ROVING PHOTOGRAPHER

THE COWL

NOVEMBER 20, 2008

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*If you could invite one PC faculty or staff member home for Thanksgiving, who would it be?*



"Prof. Arroyo."

MaryKate Powers '11, Jane Duhamel '11



"Father Tom Ertle."

Katie Gilsenan '11



"Dr. Schultz...he's a funny dude!"

Dan Landino '12



"Dr. Toth...he's fun!"

Alline Lelis '10



"Dr. Moorhead."

Meaghan Schlosstein '11, Tim O'Mara '11



"My good friend Mr. Feeney. "  
-Cory Matthews



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# Friars Scoreboard

Scores -- Standings -- Statistics -- Schedules -- Standouts

## Standouts



Marshon Brooks

Men's Basketball  
Sophomore—Stone Mountain, Ga.

Brooks had a career-high with 18 points and seven rebounds and led the Friars in their first win of the season over Dartmouth.



Danette Doetzel

Women's Cross Country  
Senior—Macklin, Saskatchewan

Doetzel led the Friars in the NCAA Regionals at Van Cortlandt Park, N.Y. last week by earning first place in a time of 20:56.

## Scores

Friday, 11/14		
Women's Basketball vs. Brown	W, 62-39	
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Maine	L, 3-2	
Saturday, 11/15		
Men's Basketball vs. Northeastern	L, 70-66	
Men's Cross Country at NCAA Regionals	Second	
Women's Cross Country at NCAA Regionals	First	
Men's Swim & Dive vs. Bryant	W, 148-112	
Women's Swim & Dive vs. Bryant	W, 151-111	
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Maine	L, 3-0	
Sunday, 11/16		
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Connecticut	W, 2-0	
Tuesday, 11/18		
Men's Basketball vs. Dartmouth	W, 100-82	
Women's Basketball at Hartford	L, 69-50	

## Schedules

Thursday, 11/20		
Men's Basketball vs. Sacred Heart	7:00 p.m.	
Friday, 11/21		
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Mercyhurst	7:00 p.m.	
Men's Ice Hockey at UMass-Lowell	7:00 p.m.	
Volleyball at National Independent Tournament	TBA	
Saturday, 11/22		
Men's Basketball vs. Maine	2:00 p.m.	
Women's Basketball vs. Portland	3:30 p.m.	
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Niagara	7:00 p.m.	
Men's Ice Hockey at New Hampshire	7:00 p.m.	
Sunday, 11/23		
Women's Basketball vs. Iowa or Boston University	TBA	
Monday, 11/24		
Women's Cross Country at NCAA Championships	11:00 a.m.	
Men's Cross Country at NCAA Championships	11:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, Nov 26		
Women's Basketball at Vermont	4:00 p.m.	

## Standings

Men's Hockey East (11/19)							Women's Hockey East (11/19)					
Team	Hockey East			Overall			Team	Hockey East		Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T		W	L	W	L	T
Northeastern	5	2	1	7	2	2	Boston College	4	1	7	2	2
Boston College	4	2	1	6	3	1	Boston University	4	0	7	2	3
Boston University	4	2	0	7	2	0	New Hampshire	3	1	7	1	3
Massachusetts	3	2	1	5	3	1	Providence	3	2	6	5	1
Maine	3	2	0	6	3	0	Northeastern	3	1	6	3	2
UMass-Lowell	3	2	0	5	4	0	Connecticut	3	3	6	5	2
New Hampshire	2	2	2	4	4	3	Maine	1	5	3	9	0
Vermont	2	3	1	5	3	2	Vermont	0	4	3	9	0
Merrimack	1	4	1	3	5	2						
Providence	0	6	1	2	7	1						



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Tennis Mixed Doubles B:  
Sartanowicz & Sartanowicz



Men's Soccer: Dos United



Women's Soccer: Can't Touch This

Photos Courtesy  
of Intramural  
Athletic Board

Graphic by John  
Vaghi '10 &  
Mollie Quinn '09



# Offense Shows Potential in Each of First Two Games

BY ALEXIS SMITH '12  
SPORTS STAFF

After two games this season, the Providence College Women's Basketball Team is 1-1. The Friars fought hard against the Hartford Hawks on Tuesday, Nov. 18, but lost with a final score of 69-50.

At the end of the first half, the Hawks were in the lead with a score of 37-21. With 6:49 remaining on the clock Hartford had their biggest lead of the game with 31 points.

The Friars picked up the pace, out-scoring the Hawks 21-9 in the remaining time, but sadly couldn't catch the Hawks.

Outstanding performances were delivered by junior Brittany Dorsey, with 17 points, and senior Chelsea Marandola, who battled through foul trouble, still played 25 minutes and gained 9 points for the team, keeping Providence alive. Junior Jessica Clark hit a team high with 11 boards in the game.

The Friars opened their season at home in the Mullaney Gymnasium on Friday, Nov. 14, in a contest against cross-town rival Brown. Providence trounced the Bears with a final score of 62-39.

Starters Marandola, senior Shantee Darrian, sophomore Mi-Khida Hankins, senior Catherine Bove, and junior Emily Cournoyer played for the majority of the game and all contributed to the win.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore Mi-Khida Hankins led the Friars with 18 points in Providence's home opener against Brown on Friday, Nov. 14 and followed up with a 5-6 performance from the free-throw line against Hartford on Tuesday, Nov. 18.

Hankins and Marandola had a combined total of 34 point in the game to lead the Friar offense. Hankins posted 18 points, four assists, four rebounds,

two steals, and one blocked shot in 32 minutes of the game.

Marandola, who earned a spot on the Big East team last year, had 16

points, five rebounds, two steals, two assists and two blocked shots. She played in all but two minutes of the game.

Darrian was only one point and one rebound away from a double-double and ended the game with nine points and nine rebounds.

The Friars had a slow start in the beginning, shooting only 7-25 (.280) from the field in the first half. At the end of the first half they went to the locker room with a 25-12 lead over the Bears.

In the second half, the Friars shot 50 percent (13-26) from the floor. The team kept the intensity going in the final 20 minutes by out-scoring Brown 37-27 and winning the game with a 23 point lead.

Providence out-rebounded Brown by a slim 42-41 margin, but dominated the defensive boards by grabbing 32. The Friars' success will depend upon their ability to rebound on offense, so as to provide as many chances for baskets as possible.

Fourteen steals were earned by the Providence defense, four of which were credited to Marandola, and three of which went to freshman Lola Wells.

The Friars' next games will be Saturday, Nov. 22, and Sunday, Nov. 23, in Iowa City, Iowa for the KCRG-TV9 Hawkeye Classic. Come cheer on your fellow Friars at the next home game on Saturday, Dec. 6, in the Mullaney Gymnasium, against Harvard, at 2:00 p.m.

## CC: Treacy Pleased with Teams' Performances

continued from back page

usual, senior Richard Yeates followed up in 13th place and junior Hayden McLaren took 18th. Freshman Dominic Channon and junior Michael Anderson rounded out the scorers for Providence.

"The men got the job done," said Treacy of the Friars' grand showing. "David was very impressive. We don't want people taking too much out of themselves before nationals, but that was not the case with David. The guys behind them did their job to beat a good Columbia team."

And while their finish met and exceeded expectations heading into the meet, the men appear to be in even better position as they prepare for the NCAA's. Freshman Lee Carey did not run last weekend, but will be competing when the Friars run in the NCAA Cross

Country Championships on Monday, Nov. 24, in Terre Haute, Ind.

Additionally, given their history of success at the NCAA's and their knowledge of the course in Terre Haute, the Men's and Women's Cross Country Teams appear to be in good shape.

"We are very familiar with this course, we run it at pre-Nationals, but it will probably be a different course," said Treacy. "It's supposed to be raining and the course will be softer. That's why we go to pre-Nationals, to get familiar with the course."

Coach Treacy's brand of coaching is complemented especially nicely by the talent and work ethic of this group of runners. It seems that this combination is the proper formula for a successful Friar run on the national scene.

## HOOPS: Four Games This Week

continued from back page

Janning, who had 24 points.

"It's not the outcome that we wanted from our first game of the season but I'd be remiss if I didn't talk about Northeastern and the quality of team they have," said Davis.

As it typically goes with the first game of the season, it is best to use it as a learning experience and an opportunity to reveal areas that need work. It was obvious that the Friars used the Northeastern game as a wake-up call in order to make improvements that were already noticeable in the recent Ivy League match-up.

According to Davis, Northeastern entered the contest with a slight advantage, having already competed in two regular season games.

"You saw a team that's further along than a lot of teams at this time of the year. We knew it was a tough game to schedule, and I would have loved to play Northeastern a couple of weeks later," said Davis.

It will be critical for the Friars to devel-

op their defense, especially by containing the opposition's top players.

"We will do everything we can to improve defensively and not allow the other team's best player to get open looks. You can't let him have those shots," said Davis.

Providence led the game for most of the first half, but the Huskies stormed ahead to take the lead with 4:55 remaining in the half and entered half-time with a 26-25 lead. In the second half, the Friars played a game of catch-up and eventually a three-pointer from McDermott tied the game 57-57 with 4:32 left in the game. In the final four minutes, Northeastern connected on three clutch three-pointers to seal the game for the Huskies.

The Friars are in the midst of an intense week of non-conference play with only one night off in between each game. They return to play on Thursday Nov. 20, against Sacred Heart, and again on Saturday, Nov. 22, in a matinee against Maine.

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# Providence Looking for First Hockey East Win

BY CHRIS MAMMEN '11  
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Men's Hockey Team lost two straight games this weekend when they hosted the Black Bears of the University of Maine.

In the first game of the series on Friday, Nov. 14, the Friars put up a tough battle but fell 3-2 to the tenacious Maine offense. On Saturday, Nov. 15, however, the Friars showed little of the previous night's luster and were shutout 3-0, bringing them to 2-7-1 overall and 0-6-1 in conference play.

"We gave it everything we had," said sophomore left winger Matt Germain. "Friday night was a tough game which both teams played well in, but the first goal of the second night really took the wind out of our sails. It was a tough weekend, but not for lack of effort. Right now we're just trying to get that energy back, have some fun with it and loosen up a little bit."

On Saturday the Friars were completely stonewalled by the Black Bears, giving up a 36-24 shot advantage. At the 7:37 mark of the second period Maine took a 1-0 lead when Tanner House scored a short-handed goal, his third goal of the season, gaining possession behind the PC net and scoring on a wrap-around. The Friars responded with a flurry of shots to close out the second, but were unable to score on any of them.

The third period was dominated by Gustav Nyquist of the Black Bears who scored two goals, including the second short-handed goal of the game. Maine goalie Scott Darling made 24 stops and recorded the victory, while PC goalie freshman Justin Gates made 33 stops but was strapped with his fifth loss of the season.

"Right now we are having a tough



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore Ben Farrer had an assist in the Friars' 3-2 loss to Maine on Friday, Nov. 14, at Schneider Arena.

go of it; we're in tenth place and it's hard to go out there every night and give it your all and not have anything to show for it," said senior goalie Chris Mannix. "We have to focus on the right things to get back on track. You could focus on March, or the playoffs, or the standings, but that doesn't help right now. We need to play our best, take little steps and play our best hockey and put a few good games together, then the wins will come and we will be a team to be reckoned with."

The Friars played a much stronger game Saturday and refused to give up, but ultimately the Black Bears' offense was a little too much. Though Maine

jumped out to a 1-0 lead about halfway through the first period, PC answered back in the second when sophomore Austin Mayer drilled a shot off a Maine defenseman and into the back off the net. With 3:40 left in the second period Maine was able to capitalize on a PC penalty and take back the lead, 2-1.

At the 6:29 mark of the third senior defenseman Matt Taormina scored the equalizer on a rebound off of freshman Matt Bergland's shot. Maine took the lead for good though with just under ten minutes to play. Despite a 37-17 shot advantage, the Friars could not score goals when they needed them and took the 3-2 loss.

"I really think we had the better game plan Friday, and deserved a better fate," said Friars Head Coach Tim Army. "But when you aren't winning hockey games it just seems like everything is going against you. We haven't had success yet and it's easy for the energy to just be sapped from us and now we've dug ourselves an awful hole and have a great deal of work ahead of us. We need to get back to the basics of what we were trying to do this season and start playing some good hockey. We can still climb back into the playoffs but it is going to be tough."

The Friars will still be searching for their first Hockey East victory of the season this weekend when they travel to UMass-Lowell on Friday, Nov. 21, and the University of New Hampshire on Saturday, Nov. 22, for a pair of in-conference games.

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## HOCKEY: Mercyhurst Fri.

continued from back page

between us (and Connecticut), so it means a lot that we won our first meeting, but we still have two more games against them, so we'll have to keep that up throughout the year."

The Friars, who will not rekindle hostilities with any conference cohabitants for two more weeks, will conduct a home-and-home set with UConn over the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Until then, their expressed task is to build on an active hot streak of 4-0-1 in their last five games and their best overall start (6-5-1) since the 2005-06 season.

Additionally, six of their next nine ventures, which will be spaced out in large part by the traditional December deceleration that comes with final exams and the holiday break, are inter-league affairs—most notably this Friday, Nov. 21, when No. 10-ranked Mercyhurst drops in at Schneider Arena. So while the current congestion

in the Hockey East standings isn't naturally inclined to subside just yet, there resonates an invitation to make long-craved ripples on the national landscape.

"Not a cliché, but they're all big. They really are," said Deraney. "This (Connecticut) game had some significance because, one, it's the beginning of our season series with them, so it was important to kick that off in our favor."

"Secondly, it is two valuable points in the league. And they're a very tough team. They have to take away points from other teams so it's important that we take as many points as we can from them."

"And lastly, hey, we've got a nice little winning streak going. In the last nine games, we're 6-2-1...So you can't get lost in the numbers. You just look back on where you were and, like I've said, we've come a long way. We still have so far to go, but this is a nice stepping-stone for us."



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**They are only 12 games into the young season, but the Celtics stand in first place in the East with a 10-2 record. Can Boston keep up this blistering pace, and will they successfully defend their NBA title?**

The Celtics are off to a hot start, but unlike last year, there are a few Eastern Conference teams that have the capabilities to stop them. In my opinion, the regular season means nothing because everything is proved in the playoffs. Winning 50 or 60 games is highly likely for this Celtics team, but it means nothing unless Doc Rivers takes another Gatorade bath. The aging trio of KG, Ray Allen, and Paul Pierce already got their ring, so they may not play with the same sense of urgency.

Teams like the Cavaliers and Pistons want that title and may play with more intensity to earn it. LeBron James desperately wants to bring a title to Cleveland before his long-rumored move to New York. He is considered one of the top two players in the league and wants to validate himself by hoisting that trophy over his head. The Pistons are another aging team that has been to the Conference Finals every year since 2003. Yet they only have one championship and their newly acquired star, Allen Iverson, wants a ring. The Pistons want to silence the critics and shed the label that they are a team unable to get over the championship hump.

The Los Angeles Lakers are the main reason why the Celtics won't repeat as world champs. The Lakers are deeper, tougher, and better than last year. Plus, Kobe Bryant, the best player in the league, is still hungry for his first post-Shaq championship. Last year the Celtics were able to dominate the Lakers inside the paint, but the return of Andrew Bynum should negate that. Lamar Odom comes off the bench, which allows him to play within his limits and another year in the triangle-offense will benefit Pau Gasol. Phil Jackson is an all-time great coach and Kobe can take over a game at any moment. That combination will lead the Lakers to their fifteenth title come June.

- Chris Crawford '10

Remember, Cowl readers . . . we want to hear from you! Just e-mail your questions either about PC sports or sports in general to [cowlsports@gmail.com](mailto:cowlsports@gmail.com), and we'll do our best to answer them—and stir up a little debate if we can!

Thanks,  
The Cowl Sports Staff

Last year's Celtics championship was no fluke. It was their first in 22 years, seventeenth in total, and Boston swept through the playoffs in dominating fashion. There is little reason to suspect that the Celtics will not be appearing in the NBA finals again this year. For one, it has been characteristic of the NBA's Eastern conference to produce dismal competition for its top teams. It hasn't been since the 2004-05 season that the Eastern conference has sent every team to the playoffs with a winning record. Last season, the Celtics matched up in the first round with eighth seeded Atlanta who entered the series with a 37-45 mark.

As of Tuesday night's win over New York, the Celtics have opened up the season 10-2. While it appears that Detroit and Cleveland will contend for the Eastern crown, the depth of the Celtics in a seven-game series will prove too much to handle, even for LeBron and the Cavs. No team in the NBA matches up with the starting lineup of Rajon Rondo, Ray Allen, Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, and Kendrick Perkins. Backups, including Leon Powe and Tony Allen, give the Celtics a bench that will play a formidable role in another championship run.

It's likely that Boston could sleepwalk its way to the NBA finals this year. To repeat this team will have to defeat the Lakers once again. Garnett, Perkins, and Pierce, however, overmatch any Western conference team, including the Lakers, due to their athleticism and size. Additionally, the NBA is no different than other professional sports leagues—where the old adage, 'defense wins championships' reigns true. Defensively the Celtics remain one of the top three teams in the league and through 12 games this season Boston is surrendering just 89.7 points per game. With another NBA title this season, the C's will begin to re-establish another dynasty for one of the most storied franchises in sports.

- Anthony Valentino '09

## Bringing Healthy Habits Home for the Holidays

BY CASEY REUTEMANN '09  
SPORTS STAFF

It's that time of year: the semester is winding down, your Too-Much-to-Do List grows exponentially, and your consumption of caffeine reaches a level between unhealthy and inhuman. Just when you think you're not going to make it through, an annual sigh of relief comes along in the form of friends, family, and food: Thanksgiving!

For college students, this holiday is highly anticipated, due to its opportune timing during the semester. It presents the work-weary student opportunity for rest, and relaxation, and supplies fuel to get through the imminent Finals Week.

Home-cooked meals, movie marathons, and chilly walks with the dog play a role in the rejuvenation process. Unfortunately, however, many students are so drained that they see this break as justification to brush aside healthy habits. Ironically, this abrupt change in routine and attitude yields more severe exhaustion upon the return to campus!

The reality is that while given a temporary reprieve from the daily academic grind, students are often greeted at home with cooking, cleaning, shopping, and babysitting duties. Many go from the chaos of campus life to the frenzy of family gatherings, making it difficult to focus on exercising, eating right, and enjoying peace and quiet. This capitulation to the holiday commotion is a shame, since fitting health into the holiday is simple when taken one step at a time.

Encourage your family to incorporate healthy new habits into their time honored traditions. They may be reluctant, but if you are armed with enthusiasm and determination to lead by example, you may just give Thanksgiving a whole new meaning.

*Seek out Healthy Recipes and Substitutes:* Thanksgiving "staples" will continue to be made for generations of your family's Thanksgiving dinners. Whether it's Grandma Dotty's Mincemeat Pie or Aunt Barbara's Cheesy Potatoes, these dishes have

sentimental value and should be left alone. Other recipes, however, could stand revision. Initiate a pseudo-scamper hunt with your siblings/cousins etc. to find and make the healthiest new recipes for traditional Thanksgiving dishes. By participating in food prep, you take the burden off your family and hey, a little friendly competition never hurt anyone!

*Get moving:* Though it's a holiday that centers around food, there is no reason that physical activity can't become part of the tradition. In fact, there are more "Turkey Trot" road races in the northeast than you could ever imagine. Check out your local event calendar and get a family member to enter with you! If road races aren't your thing, initiate an after dinner walk, touch football game, or even Nintendo Wii tournament. Do not succumb to the urge to fall asleep after eating your turkey. . . mind over matter, people!

*Everything in Moderation:* Inevitably you will be eating more and different things. That's okay, enjoy it! The problem arises when you sit down to Thanksgiving dinner with the "last-supper" attitude. You only have candied yams once a year, so why not pile 'em up, right? No! The only thing this viewpoint gets you is a stomachache. If you discipline yourself to a reasonable helping of seasonal favorites, you will savor each bite and avoid the "food hangover" that typifies this holiday. Even if you *do* only eat Candied Yams once a year, there are always leftovers. So calm down, think it through and serve up moderate portions of your favorite dishes.

By making these small attitude and behavior adjustments, you will avoid personal surrender to damaging holiday pitfalls and set a great example. You, as a student, are privileged enough to have access to many health and fitness resources such as this column, so share the wealth with those you love.

That's not to say that relaxation is forbidden and pumpkin pie is off limits. No way! Savor the holiday, but don't be afraid to use your awareness to your family's advantage.

## Friar Swimmers Continue Winning Ways

BY JOHN SESSIONS '12  
SPORTS STAFF

Even as the bitter winter weather begins to settle in around campus, some just can't stay out of the pool and the win column. This past Saturday, Nov. 15, the Providence College Swimming and Diving Teams defeated in-state rival Bryant University at home in the Taylor Natatorium, capping off an impressive week for the Friars. The Friar men cruised to their third-straight victory, defeating the Bulldogs 148-112, while the Friar women earned their second win of the season, 151-111.

On the men's side, senior Chris Ray and junior Mathew Card earned two first place wins apiece. Ray took the 100-meter breaststroke (1:12.16) and the 200-meter breaststroke (2:41.46) while Card won the 100-meter freestyle (53.96) and the 100-meter butterfly (59.75). Card, who has been an essential component of the team this year, loves the way the team is performing so far, not to mention his individual accomplishments this season.

"I am very pleased with my performances thus far this year. My times have been dropping and I am feeling fast in the water," said Card. "As far as accomplishments for the season I am simply looking to go as fast as possible. I want to



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

**Senior Blair Flynn registered two first-place finishes against Bryant on Saturday, Nov. 15. Flynn won the 50-meter freestyle and the 100-meter freestyle.**

help the rest of the team do the same."

The men's side certainly seems to be hitting its stride as of late, and this momentum has carried over to the women's side, with two recent wins.

The Friar women earned nine individual first place finishes and one relay win this past Saturday. Sophomore Alexis Fatigati and seniors Lauren Sepe and Blair Flynn had two individual first-place victories apiece. Fatigati took the 200-meter freestyle (2:12.32) and the 200-meter

individual medley (2:33.44), while Sepe won the 100-meter breaststroke (1:19.15) and the 200-meter breaststroke (2:53.87). Not to be outdone, Flynn earned first in the 50-meter freestyle (28.56) and the 100-meter freestyle (1:01.19). And as if that wasn't enough, the three teamed with sophomore Allie Pelle to win the 200-meter medley relay in a time of 2:10.29.

Obviously these results have sat very well with Head Swimming and Diving Coach John O'Neill, who is exception-

ally impressed with what he is seeing.

"We are pleased with the work we have done in our first semester and our dual meets," said O'Neill. "We're looking forward to the Anderson Invitational in December as we compete and try to make as many qualifying standards as possible for the Big East Swimming and Diving Championships in February."

The Friars look to capitalize on this momentum when they return to action on Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6, when they travel to Kingston, R.I. to compete at the Harold Anderson Invitational. Friday's events start at 5:00 p.m., while Saturday's competition kicks off at 11:00 a.m.

Indeed, the Providence Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Teams are eager to get back in the water with hopes of attaining viable qualifying times at the Anderson Invitational.

Although the biggest challenges lay ahead of the Friars, their desire to win is one that cannot be matched in the pool. The road to the Big East Championship will certainly not come easy, but Card likes the team's chances.

"The team is getting after it, in and out of the water. Everyone is focused on making it to the Big East Conference in Indianapolis. There we can race against some of our toughest competitors and compete in one of the fastest pools in the world," he said.



# Providence Rebounds with Win over Dartmouth

BY MOLLIE QUINN '09 AND  
JOHN BUTLER '11  
SPORTS EDITORS

No one said it was going to be easy, and the Friars knew that as the 2008-09 regular season commenced against Northeastern on Saturday, Nov. 15.

MEN'S  
HOOPS

And despite a spirited atmosphere with chants of "Keno Davis" prior to the game, Providence suffered its first loss with a score of 70-66. And while it would have been easy to fall into a slump, the Friars refused, and instead responded with a 100-82 win over Dartmouth on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in which the offense exploded.

"Our goal from day one has been to try to improve as a team, knowing that we want to be the toughest team to beat when March and postseason rolls around," said Friars Head Coach Keno Davis. "This game tonight [against Dartmouth] gave us a great opportunity to improve in a lot of areas."

There was tangible improvement off the boards and at the free-throw line. The Friars out-rebounded Dartmouth 53-33, the largest margin for the Friars in four games this season—exhibition or regular season. In addition, Providence got to the free-throw line 46 times, and shot 67 percent, again bettering their mark in previous contests.

Offensively, sparks were flying. Although the three-point percentage increased (30.4 percent), PC found



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Weyinmi Efejuku scored a team-high 16 points in the Friars' loss to Northeastern on Saturday, Nov. 15.

other ways to score in the triple digits against a Dartmouth team that had not allowed an opponent 100 points since 2002. Indeed, seven Friars scored in double figures, led by sophomore Marshon Brooks with a career-high 18 points and seven rebounds.

"I think this team is playing as hard as they can right now," said Davis. "Marshon's a big reason. What's gonna be tough for other teams to match up

with us is when Marshon plays, because Marshon could play any position."

And the versatile second-year player is happy with his present role on the team, taking advantage of the opportunity to learn from the veterans.

"Coming off the bench, I love it. I get to see what's going on," said Brooks. "I watch Weyinmi, that's who I usually go in for, and just go out there and play hard."

The whole of the Friar team has certainly put forth maximum effort in the two regular season contests this season, a *sine qua non* for the full-court press which has become a staple of the Providence defense. The Friars utilized the press for the majority of play against both Dartmouth and Northeastern, and alternated between zone and man-to-man defense in the half-court. The press seems to be working well, but there is still some work to be done in the half-court.

"With the defense... it's execution, but I don't think it's a fault for effort," said Davis. "When you press, [opponents] think you're gonna give up easy buckets, and that's what we did to a fault tonight. We pressed, we got some good turnovers, but we gave up too many buckets when they got behind us."

Dartmouth, like Northeastern before them, was able to utilize the three-point shot in a big way.

Northeastern completed 60 percent of their three-point shots while the Friars finished only 24 percent of their shots from the three-point line. The Huskies also forced 21 turnovers which added to the Northeastern winning effort on Saturday night. Although it marked the first tally in the loss column for the Friars, senior Weyinmi Efejuku posted 16 points for the Friars. However, this was not enough to match opposing guard, Matt

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## Friar Skaters Shutout Huskies 2-0

BY AL DANIEL '11  
SPORTS STAFF

The getting was never good for legitimately stimulating stretches in the Providence College Women's Hockey

WOMEN'S  
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clash with Connecticut last Sunday, Nov. 16. For both of the

contesting offensive brigades, the recipe for a protracted, let alone fruitful, scoring opportunity was more elusive than Sarah Palin was to the national press guild prior to Nov. 4.

But when an even seven minutes remained in a daylong zilch-to-nada arm wrestling bout, the door opened warmly on the Friars in the form of a 5-on-3 advantage, made possible by Rebecca Hewett's holding infraction at the 11:57 mark and Cristin Allen's cross-checking citation 62 ticks later.

And on the opposite end of an opportunistic timeout, Providence pounced with 5:57 to spare. Freshman Laura Veharanta shipped a magnetic, low-flying feed out of the deep far alley for sophomore Alyse Ruff to tilt home upstairs.

"We had worked on our power play the entire week and we had watched videos on them," noted Ruff. "So it was the kind of thing that we were looking to do against them—a backdoor play like that. Laura gave me a great pass and I was able to find the open net."

Up till then, the Friars had been afforded only two power

play shots over four preceding opportunities and only 20 total bids altogether on the day. UConn, conversely, squeezed a slightly weightier bushel of 30 shots on a collected goaltender in freshman Genevieve Lacasse, including five on a single power play midway through the second period.

But from the long-awaited icebreaker onward, the Friars paced themselves to a grittily executed 2-0 win, finalized by freshman Kate Bacon's empty netter with 20 seconds on the clock, and thus nabbed the coveted initial upper hand in the Battle for Southern New England.

"When they're ahead, they're a very tough team to come back against," said head coach Bob Deraney. "But when we're ahead of them, it opens things up for us, and as you can see, they're a very disciplined, well-coached team that just tries to wear you down."

"That's what I'm most proud of. We won the mental battle."

The win pole-vaulted Providence—now 3-2-1 in Hockey East games—over the now 3-3 Huskies in the middleweight sect of the league standings, giving PC sole possession of fourth place for the moment.

"It was a huge win," said senior captain Brittany Simpson, who was credited with the first assist on Ruff's clinching conversion. "It's always a good contest

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## Friar Harriers Headed to Nat'l's

BY JOHN BUTLER '11  
SPORTS EDITOR

Although excellence characterizes many Friar athletic teams, past and present, you would be hard-pressed to find a squad that can boast of the sustained excellence over decades that has characterized the Providence Men's and Women's Cross Country Teams.

Following outstanding performances by each team on Saturday, Nov. 15, at the NCAA Northeast Regionals, both the women and the men advanced to the NCAA Division I Championships.

The women earned their sixth regional title in program history, and the men notched second place despite a wet and muddy course and a competitive field of the region's premier runners. These finishes grant the Friar harriers automatic bids into the national championship. This will mark the women's team's 20th NCAA appearance, and the men's team's 30th appearance. The architect behind this unprecedented success has been Friars Head Coach Ray Treacy.

"The goal every year is to get to the NCAA's and we've done that for 20 straight years with the women, and 11 straight years on the men's side," said Treacy. "Both teams had their best races of the season, and the women were particularly impressive."

Senior Danette Doetzel had a truly breakout performance by earning first-place in a time of 20:56 on the 6K



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Danette Doetzel won the individual title at the NCAA Regional Championships on Saturday, Nov. 15, for the second consecutive year.

course. Providence placed three of the scorers in the top ten, as senior Katie DiCamillo followed up in fifth-place and junior Krystal Douglas finished in sixth.

The freshman tandem of Mary Kate Champagne and Hannah Davidson took eleventh place and thirteenth place, respectively, a truly laudable finish for first-year runners.

"I am very impressed with the freshmen," said Treacy. "To be in the top 13 in the region is very impressive for a freshman, and it shows well for the future of the program."

Overall, the women recorded 36 points to earn first place, and were head-and-shoulders above the second finisher in Syracuse, who had 90 points. This sub-40 point performance is the best showing at the regional meet for the women in recent history.

The men's accomplishments added to what was a talented showing all around. Sophomore David McCarthy continued his banner year with a second-place finish in a time of 31:13. Although the poor condition of the course made time gaps between runners greater than

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